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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTH.

On the 8th June, at 11a, Praya East, Hongkong, the wife of J. BARRY, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 2nd June, 1898, at Dalbeattie, Kircudbrightshire, Scotland, by the Rev. Mr. Paton, Captain ROBERT PHILLIPS, China Navigation Co., to MARY AGNES, eldest daughter of HENRY GILLESPIE, Esq., of Dalbeattie. (By Cable.)

DEATHS.

At 133, Wanchai Road, WILLIAM HENRY DIXON, aged 31 years, late second engineer of the steamer *Heungshan*.

Accidentally drowned at Ichang, on the 22nd May, 1898, ROBERT MACLELLAND, aged 22 years, third engineer of the steamer *Kwicks*, China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co., fourth son of SAMUEL and JANET TURNER, Greenock, Scotland, and beloved brother of SAM TURNER, Old Dock, Shanghai.

On the 25th May, at St. Barnard's Hospital Nagasaki, W. B. RUSSELL, Commissioner of Imperial Maritime Customs, at Swatow. Aged 49 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 6th May arrived, per M. M. steamer *Caledonien*, on the 6th June (31 days); the American mail of the 10th May arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, on the 7th June (28 days); and the English mail of the 13th May arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Verona*, on the 10th June (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The French steamer *Massilia*, hired as a Russian transport, arrived at Singapore on the 31st May on its way to Vladivostok with 1,182 Russian soldiers and 8 officers.

We hear that the Court of Inquiry held at Aden with respect to the stranding of the P. & O. steamer *China* has suspended the Captain's certificate for six months.

The *Singapore Free Press* of the 1st June says:—To-day there are in Singapore harbour and town 75 Russian and German officers, and 2,500 men, passing eastward. Quite a little army.

The native papers at Shanghai state that twelve of the ringleaders in the recent riot at Shashi have been beheaded, and that their heads are now exposed in public places as a warning to similarly disposed miscreants.

The Japanese Government has intimated to the United States and the French Governments the fact that the Bill for the Repeal of the Raw Silk Export Encouragement Law has been approved by both Houses of the Diet.

The German transport *Darmstadt* arrived at Singapore on the 1st June with 67 officers and 1,304 marines and troops for the German fleet in the Far East and for Kiaochau. She was to leave the same evening for Manila, the *Free Press* says, it is understood with reliefs for the *Irene*, thence to Hongkong.

It is reported that the Korean Government has decided to open the ports of Masan-po in Kyong-sang-do, Gunsan-po in Chulla-do, and Shimp'o in Ham-gyeng-do to foreign trade, while Pingyang in the interior will likewise be opened; also that Deer Island is to be the foreign settlement of Fusan.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha held on the 26th May the accounts of the last half year were adopted and a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum was declared, while a sum amounting to 130,000 yen is to be carried forward to the account for the current half-year.

It is reported, apparently on good authority, that there is to be no territorial concession at Kowloon, on account of the reluctance of the Chinese to surrender the Customs revenue in the district that it was desired to add to the colony, but Great Britain is to be accorded permission to establish forts and control the passes.

A Peking telegram of the 23rd May to the Japanese Vernacular press states that China has assented to the payment of 30,000 taels to the relative of the murdered French priest and has agreed to erect a church at Peihai, in Kwantung province. The demand to construct a railway from Peihai to Kwangsi-fu will be separately considered.

A report has reached Shanghai from Peking, says the *N. C. Daily News*, that the Tsungli Yamen has inclined a favourable ear to the bitter cry of the Customs staff, and that the pay of the indoor staff is to be doubled, that of the outdoor staff raised by 66 per cent. and that of the Chinese staff by 50 per cent. We give the report with all reserve.

The *Record* announces that the see of Victoria, Hongkong, vacant by the resignation of Bishop Burdon, has been offered to and accepted by the Rev. Joseph Charles Hoare. The bishop-designate, who is a son of the late Canon Hoare, has been a member of the Mid-China Mission of the C.M.S. since 1876. He is at present in England.

We are pleased to learn that the Royal Humane Society have awarded their bronze medal to Mr. F. Harris, chief officer of the revenue cruiser *Chuentiao*, in recognition of his plucky act in rescuing a sailor who fell overboard in Shanghai on the 29th of August last.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A dispatch received by the mandarins from Hankow states that the Taotai of that port, under instructions from the high provincial authorities at Wuchang, has been lately having frequent conferences with the Japanese Consul and the Commissioner of Customs regarding the damages suffered by them in the late riots at Shashi, and that an arrangement as to the indemnity is about to be come to soon. It is reported that the demands of Japan are very moderate.—*N. C. Daily News*.

An unfortunate accident happened to Captain Le Gispellier of the French mail steamer *Yarra* while that vessel was lying at anchor at Yokohama. He was going down a ladder leading to the hold, when his foot slipped and he fell to the bottom, breaking one of his legs. He was at once removed to the hospital and according to a telegram received at Shanghai by the agents from Yokohama he is progressing favourably. Mr. Morano, the first officer, took temporary command of the vessel.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The captain of the B. I. steamer *Palamotta*, on arrival at Singapore on the 28th May, reported that he passed an outward bound Norwegian cargo laden steamer called the *Brand* aground on Blenheim Shoal off Klang. The *Brand* is bound from Antwerp for Vladivostok with a full cargo of railway plant and ironwork. The vessel, of 1,519 tons net register, is owned by Mr. G. Kundsén, of Porsgrund, and Messrs. Pater-sén, Simons and Co., are the Singapore agents. The Tanjong Pagar Dock Co. were preparing to send off to her assistance.

The latest news from Manila is that severe fighting has taken place between the Insurgents and the Spanish forces, with results distinctly favourable to the former. Reports vary as to the number killed, wounded, and taken prisoner on each side, but Cavite is said to be full of Spanish prisoners taken by the Insurgents, amongst them being the Governor of Cavite province and a number of military officers. Aguinaldo, the Insurgent leader, is attacking the outlying towns and villages in detail and driving the Spaniards back upon Manila. Practically the whole of Cavite province is now in his hands and operations have been successfully commenced also in the provinces of La Laguna and Bulacan.

The Peking correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—The Hongkong Bank is trying to negotiate with H.E. Hu a loan of fifteen million taels to be used in extending the Peking line of railroad as far as Kinchou. The agreement is still under discussion. One clause therein is a good one; it states "that the present European staff shall remain in charge, as long as the syndicate that the Hongkong Bank shall obtain to float the loan holds any claim, either for interest or principal, against the railroad." The guarantee is the roadway, rolling stock, all earnings, a foreign accountant, and fifty thousand taels per annum for ten years, paid by the Board of Revenue from receipts from the four provinces of Anhui, Honan, Hupeh, and Shansi.

BRITISH DIPLOMACY IN CHINA.

(9th June.)

The last French mail brought out the report of the debate in the House of Commons on the 29th April on affairs in China. It does not contain much that is new or startling, but Mr. BALFOUR's vindication of the policy pursued by the British Government is interesting as finally focussing the points of discussion. Yesterday we received a copy of the *N. C. Daily News* of the 4th June, in which the recent Blue Book is discussed from the point of view of our local Jingoes, and some interest attaches to an examination of the arguments therein advanced in the light of the governmental declaration, which of course had not reached our contemporary at the time its article appeared. There are three points which our contemporary attempts to make, namely,

- (1).—Great Britain ought to have prevented the exercise of sovereign rights by Germany at Kiaochau. Our contemporary's words are:—
"Thus it is that Lord SALISBURY begins, that no exclusive concessions will be allowed at Kiaochou or in the Province of Shantung and so publishes it to the world, and ends by submitting to the exercise of sovereign rights over the Bay and Province by Germany. When Lord SALISBURY retreats so ingloriously in the very beginning of the diplomatic battle there need be no astonishment at his subsequent flights."
- (2).—That Great Britain should have compelled China to accept the loan she offered to her.
- (3).—That Great Britain should have prevented the Russian occupation of Port Arthur.

Of these points the most remarkable is the first. When Germany took possession of Kiaochau her action met with general approval, and, if our memory serves us, with that of our contemporary itself. It was from the first understood that she intended to claim sovereign rights, in fact, to establish a second Hongkong. Representations were made to Germany as to maintaining the principle of the open door, and in her final agreement with China as published by a Shanghai paper the other day, and which we presume may be taken as authentic, it is provided that "Chinese ships-of-war and merchant ships, and ships-of-war and merchant ships of countries having treaties and in a state of amity with China, shall receive equal treatment with German ships-of-war and merchant ships in Kiaochau Bay during the continuance of the lease. Germany is at liberty to enact any regulations she desires for the government of the territory and harbour, provided such regulations apply impartially to the ships of all nations, Germany and China included." Such being the spirit in which Germany takes over her new territory it would have been the height of madness for Great Britain to have attempted to thwart her. So long as she allows freedom of trade Germany is welcome to her sovereign rights; indeed, it is difficult to see how she could satisfactorily carry on the government of the place without them. Her acquisition of Kiaochau promises to be one of the best things for foreign trade in China that has happened in recent times, and it strikes us as extraordinary to find our Northern contemporary cavilling at this time of day at the granting of "sovereign rights." Given equal facilities for trade the

substitution of German sovereign rights for Chinese rule is an excellent exchange alike from a commercial and a humanitarian point of view.

With reference to the loan, it was offered and was, after consideration, declined, mainly at the instance of Russia. On the other hand, the proposed Russian loan was rejected at the instance of Great Britain. We objected to certain of the terms that Russia wished to impose, Russia objected to certain of the terms that we wished to impose, and both loans fell through. But, as Mr. BALFOUR pointed out, "as a matter of history and fact, we have without the loan almost everything we desired in connection with it, and the loan has finally been negotiated—not, indeed, by England, but still less by Russia—by the great corporation the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, who have obtained the money from English and German financiers." We think it would tax the ingenuity of the cleverest to find a *casus belli* in that position, which is one that is not likely to be complained of, at all events, by the shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, who are living in a well founded hope of receiving next month a quite unprecedented report of the results of the half-year's working.

Next comes the last and most knotty point, that of Port Arthur. We have no wish to offer an apology for the methods of Russian diplomacy, on the contrary, we are as ready to condemn them as any one, but looking at the substance of the dispute, and setting aside as immaterial a tangle more or less in the course of the negotiations, the question is, was Port Arthur worth fighting for? Most decidedly, no. We have on former occasions, and long before the dispute reached an acute stage, expressed our views on that point, and on the present occasion we cannot do better than quote the words of Mr. BALFOUR:—"A great many of my hon. friends think that we ought at all hazards to have prevented the Russians coming to Port Arthur. It would, of course, have been perfectly possible for us to do so. What would our situation have been then? We should have been in occupation of Port Arthur, and Russia would have gone on making her railway, and the tension between the two countries would have been extreme. I assume it would not have been at the breaking point, but it would have been almost at the breaking point, and, of course, the very first object of Russia would have been to involve us in war with somebody else, or, at all events, to obtain such an opportunity, or to choose such a moment of difficulty that she could pursue her own objects at Port Arthur and get over difficulties which we had temporarily placed in her way. And every year that difficulty would of necessity have become greater, for every year the railway would have crept down—the railway, which nobody desires to resist, which we all admit is a civilizing and beneficial influence, would have crept down from the Siberian railway, and would have come closer and closer to the port which we had occupied, by what right I am not sure. I do not know whether we should have taken a lease of it or not. The end of that would have been that as long as we occupied Port Arthur we should have had to lock up there a very large garrison to answer to this railway in connexion with the main land force of Russia in Siberia and in Russia itself." Mr. BALFOUR went on to argue that the best reply to the Russian occupation of Port Arthur was the British occupation of Wei-

haiwei, a contention that in our view is unassailable.

Great Britain in the recent crisis has lost nothing whatever; in no single point is she in a worse position than she was in before; but on the other hand she has gained immensely. It has been settled once and for all that the successor of Sir ROBERT HART in the Inspectorate-General of Customs is to be a Britisher, a point on which considerable uneasiness formerly prevailed; the opening of new ports and of the inland waterways has been secured; and the principle of the open door throughout the Empire, including Manchuria, has been successfully vindicated. No doubt there are side issues on which the Government's policy may be attacked, just as in a game of skill individual strokes of the best player may be open to criticism, but a glance at the total score of the recent game of diplomacy shows that Great Britain has won with a large margin.

THE KOWLOON EXTENSION.

In another column will be found an interesting article by a correspondent on the Kowloon extension and the general policy of the British Government in the Far East. Our correspondent has heard that we are to have no extension of territory, but merely permission to erect fortifications and control the passes. If that be so keen disappointment will be experienced in the colony. The acquisition of additional territory was urged primarily for military reasons, but it was also represented that incidentally the enlargement of the colony's boundaries would prove of great value from an industrial and commercial point of view. If we have obtained all that is necessary for the effective defence of the colony the main point has been gained, for which we must be thankful, but it is impossible to repress a feeling of chagrin that the subsidiary point of a definite enlargement of the area of the colony should not have been insisted upon also. Circumstances, we regret to say, point to the correctness of our correspondent's information on this point, for had any acquisition of territory been decided upon some definite pronouncement on the subject would almost certainly have been made ere this.

While regretting the decision arrived at by Her Majesty's Government on the Kowloon question—assuming it to be the fact that our boundaries are not to be moved forward—we cannot wholly join with our correspondent in his animadversions on Lord SALISBURY and his policy. From the very beginning of the recent crisis in the affairs of China Lord SALISBURY has unmistakably declared himself as opposed to territorial acquisitions. This might be an error of judgment—as we have from the beginning maintained it to be—but it cannot be ascribed to pusillanimity or vacillation. It would have been easier for Lord SALISBURY to have taken a hand in the carving up of China than to have entered on the stupendous task of preserving the integrity of the decaying empire, and he would have had better opportunities of earning popular applause thereby. The noble lord, has however, consistently and with almost complete success adhered to his policy. He is now being hounded because he did not rush his country into a war that would have been more barren of profitable result than even the Crimean war!

The injustice of the criticism to which Lord SALISBURY is subjected is exemplified in our correspondent's contribution. It is

alleged that His Lordship has been unable to divest himself of the Yellow Terror, and that "in his absence Mr. BALFOUR, under the pressure of national opinion, ventured to demand the lease of Weihaiwei, and, no doubt to his uncle's immeasurable astonishment, promptly obtained it." This is all contrary to fact. The demand for the lease of Weihaiwei was not made under the pressure of public opinion; the announcement of the concession came as a complete national surprise. Nor was the demand made in Lord SALISBURY's absence, for the affair was all settled before he left for the Riviera and all the Foreign Office despatches were signed by him. On the 25th February Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD telegraphed:—"I have heard from a Chinese Minister, who is probably well informed, that Chinese Government would offer lease of Weihaiwei to British Government if they thought their request would meet with a favourable response." To this the Marquess of SALISBURY replied, also by telegram, on the same day:—"The policy which is at present being pursued by Her Majesty's Government aims at discouraging any alienation of Chinese territory. The discussion of any proposal for the lease of Weihaiwei would accordingly be premature, provided the existing position is not materially altered by the action of other Powers." On the 25th March Lord SALISBURY again telegraphed to Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD:—"Balance of power in Gulf of Pechili is materially altered by surrender of Port Arthur by Yamen to Russia. It is therefore necessary to obtain, in the manner you think most efficacious and speedy, the refusal of Weihaiwei on the departure of the Japanese. The terms should be similar to those granted to Russia for Port Arthur. British fleet is on its way from Hongkong to Gulf of Pechili." The affair was accordingly put through. The Marquess of SALISBURY was at the time confined to his room by indisposition, but he continued to give attention to pressing business and must have been aware of the tenour of the telegrams despatched in his name; he certainly could not have been taken by surprise in the matter.

There is one other point touched upon by our correspondent that calls for mention, namely, the rumour that "the Chinese desire to retain the collection of the Customs revenue in this small district"—i.e. the district which it was sought to have included in our boundaries—"will be regarded as an insurmountable obstacle in the way of the needed expansion of Hongkong." Can it be that the Navy League's suggestion that the extension of British territory would break down the Chinese arrangements for the prevention of smuggling has caused the Chinese Government to take fright? Certainly no suggestion could have been more ill advised or more calculated to defeat the real object aimed at. If the League thought the fiscal side of the question came within its scope at all it should have been its policy to show how the concession could be granted without detriment to Chinese interests, but instead of that it advanced injury to those interests as one of the reasons why the concession should be demanded. If A asks B in a friendly way for the loan of a knife his request is likely enough to be granted, but it will be refused if he adds that he wants the knife for the purpose of destroying B's property. The Navy League's declaration of designs upon the Chinese revenue was the more absurd inasmuch as no such

designs were really entertained. All that we want is facility for legitimate trade and industrial expansion.

THE POSITION AT MANILA.

If it be true that the Governor-General of the Philippines personally favours the capitulation of Manila it is to be regretted that he has allowed himself to be dissuaded from giving prompt effect to his views, for there is nothing to be gained by prolonging the hopeless struggle. There is not the remotest prospect of reinforcements being received from Spain, and while the strength of the Manila garrison is daily diminishing, that of the insurgent besiegers is increasing. The United States troops are due in ten days from the present time, but judging from the fighting that took place between the 28th May and 3rd June there would seem to be a possibility that Manila may be reduced before that time, or at least that the outposts will be driven in and the city closely invested. The insurgents in their previous campaigns have shown that they lack neither courage nor intelligence, and now that they have arms equal to or superior to those of their former masters, while their numbers are practically unlimited, the reduction of Manila would be only a question of time, even if no American troops appeared on the scene.

Should the Spaniards consider that honour requires them to hold out until the bombardment actually commences, the regret will be rather for the loss of life and suffering preceding that event than for the horrors of the bombardment itself. Admiral DEWEY, as is well known, intends to avoid injury to private property as far as possible and will direct his fire only upon the military positions, and it may be hoped that one or two shots will be sufficient to satisfy the Spanish on the point of honour and induce them to surrender. We do not anticipate that the bombardment, if it takes place at all, will be much more than nominal. In the meantime foreigners are under a debt of obligation both to Admiral DEWEY and to Governor-General AGUINALDO for the facilities afforded for their safety should matters come to the worst. A number of vessels that were in the Pasig river have been allowed to be brought out, placed under foreign flags, and ranged alongside the foreign men-of-war for the accommodation of the foreign residents when they deem it prudent to leave the shore. As these vessels will naturally fall as prizes to the American squadron Admiral DEWEY's permission to place them temporarily under the protection of foreign flags displays a confidence and courtesy that will command warm appreciation.

The insurgent leader has issued an order to his followers to the effect that the lives and property of foreigners as well as of non-combatant Spaniards are to be respected and judging from the former attitude of the insurgents the foreigners would probably not have much to fear from that quarter; but as the chartered vessels now lying off Manila in any case afford a safe refuge the question of the feeling of the insurgents towards the foreign community hardly arises. What is of more interest in AGUINALDO's proclamation is the claim put forward that the United States have recognised the right of the Filipinos to self-government. Of the nature of the agreement between Admiral DEWEY and AGUINALDO nothing is publicly-known, but AGUINALDO in his proclamation says that "the great North American nation" con-

siders the Filipinos possess sufficient civilization and aptitude to govern their oppressed country themselves; and on his seal he uses the words "Gobierno Dictatorial Filipino," from which it would appear that he expects when the Spaniards are dispossessed that the government of the country will remain in the hands of himself and his followers. The future of the Philippines is a fruitful subject of speculation at present and has been discussed by the press of Europe, America, Asia, and Australia. Many interests are involved in the final disposition of the islands, but there appears to be a tendency to overlook one of the principal interests, namely, that of the inhabitants. The Filipinos will claim a voice in the future government of their country, and they will be found strong enough to make their voice heard. If they do not achieve absolute independence they will at least have to be granted a large measure of autonomy.

THE VALUE OF PROPERTY IN QUEEN'S ROAD.

In a recent issue an article appeared on the state of the property market, in which it was represented that there had during the last few years been a decline in selling values, and particular reference was made to property in the section of Queen's Road extending from Pottinger Street to Ice House Street. Since writing that article we have had an opportunity of inspecting the comparative assessments of the district in question for the years 1887-8 and 1898-9, from which it appears that so far from there having been a decline in the assessed value there has been a large appreciation. And it must be admitted that the official assessment forms the best measure available of the true value of property, though it may happen that in times of feverish speculation, commonly called "booms," prices may be paid when property changes hands that the income does not justify. A *bona fide* investor, for instance, ordinarily looks for seven per cent. or better from an investment in house property, but when a boom is on prices are sometimes paid that would reduce the return to very much below that figure. The sale of a portion of Messrs. A. S. WATSON & Co's property the other day showed a heavy decline from a valuation made in 1889, but on the other hand other properties have changed hands at an advance on the prices they realised in previous transactions of some years ago. A case in point is the old Club building, now the property of Messrs. A. S. WATSON & Co. This property was sold to the French Mission in 1894 for \$105,000; in 1897 the Mission sold it to Messrs. A. S. WATSON & Co. for \$127,000, and Messrs. A. S. WATSON & Co. have since refused \$150,000 for it.

The assessment for the district in question amounted in 1887-8 to \$115,860, and for 1898-9 it is \$145,345, showing an increase in round figures of 25 per cent. The Hongkong Hotel and Connaught House are not included in these figures, as the former has in the interval been extended to the Praya and the latter was in 1888 being rebuilt, so that in these cases no exact comparison can be given, and for similar reasons the old Victoria Hotel is also omitted. A 25 per cent. increase in the assessment must represent a proportionate increase in the true value of the property, whatever temporary fluctuations may take place in the market. In the previous article it was said that the district specially referred to was in a transition state, that the European

firms were deserting it, and that the pressure of the Chinese upon it was not yet sufficiently strong to prevent a decline in values. We went on to say:—"This pressure, however, is constantly increasing and in a few years' time will lead to a general enhancement of the low values now ruling, bringing them up to or beyond the point at which they stood in 1889. Holders of property in the neighbourhood, however, and would-be investors, would do well to take note of the change coming over the character of the district. Chinese shops are already to be found as far east as Duddell Street and before many more years have passed the European firms now occupying premises in Queen's Road will all have found accommodation elsewhere." The pressure of Chinese, we find, is already much greater than we imagined and the complete transformation of the district is likely to be completed in a very brief period.

Whatever sentimental views may be entertained upon the encroachment of the Chinese, property owners certainly have no reason to regret it if they look only to the interests of their pockets. Take for instance the premises formerly occupied by the Chartered Bank at the corner of Duddell Street, which are now let to a number of different tenants occupying separate portions of the building. The corner on the ground floor has been turned into a rattan chair shop, another portion being occupied as a barber's shop. At first view it might be thought that establishments of that character could not afford to pay the same rent as that formerly paid by such a tenant as a large and flourishing banking institution, yet we find that while the assessment was \$5,180 in 1887-8 it is now \$5,400. There are other premises that show much larger increases in the assessment, and there is only one that shows a decline, namely, the Old Oriental Bank, now occupied by Thomas's Grill Rooms. In our previous article we quoted an extract from a speech made by the Hon. C. P. CHATER in 1887 in connection with the Praya Reclamation scheme, in which he predicted that inland properties would not only maintain their values in spite of the reclamation, but would share like marine lots in the steady improvement of value year by year that is inseparable from the continued progress of the colony. A comparison of the assessments of that time and of the present shows how sound was the hon. gentleman's opinion.

II.

Our recent references to the question of land values in Queen's Road have evoked very contradictory opinions. Yesterday we spoke of the assessment as negating the idea that there had been any real depreciation of values, as determined by the rentals, in the section of Queen's Road from Pottinger Street to Ice House Street. A correspondent who holds a different view now supplies us with the figures of some actual sales which, as he contends, show that property has in reality depreciated. The New O.B.C. building was sold on the 6th September, 1889, for \$80,000, and on the 8th July, 1893, for \$59,000; the old Victoria Hotel on the 4th January, 1890, for \$500,000, and on the 25th June, 1897, for \$410,000; the old Chartered Bank on the 25th January, 1889, for \$89,000, and on the 23rd September, 1896, for \$58,000; while the old Hongkong Club building changed hands in 1882 for \$170,000 (including furniture), on the 2nd February, 1887, for \$130,000 (also including furniture), on the 8th March, 1894, for \$105,000 (without furniture), and in 1897 for \$127,000. We are told that many other instances

showing smaller losses might also be given. It is admitted that during the past year there has been a distinct recovery, since Mr. ORMSBY's revised Post Office scheme, but from 1890 to 1895 it is contended that the tendency of the market was all one way, namely, downwards.

As regards selling values our correspondent is no doubt in the main correct, and his view corresponds with that under which our first article on the subject was written; but the real test of the value of a property is the rental, and the Government assessment affords a means by which that can be approximately arrived at and a comparison instituted between one year and another. On that basis values have appreciated. It is impossible seriously to call in question the accuracy of the assessment, as it is based upon the actual rents paid, or, where a property is in the occupation of the owner and no rent passes, upon the rents paid for similar property in the same neighbourhood. Property owners are naturally on the alert against over-assessment, and whatever error there may be in the official returns must therefore be in the direction of under valuation. As the assessment is made on the same principle year by year, however, the comparison of one year with another must always be approximately correct, and if there is an increase in the assessment it is because the property is yielding an increased return. The amounts at which properties change hands do not afford an equally reliable measure of the true value, as they are influenced by speculation and the prices may vary by as much as 25 per cent. within a few weeks. Indeed, in the land boom that took place in the early eighties a device was hit upon by speculators for inflating values by the insertion of fictitious figures in the deeds; a property changed hands, say, for \$50,000, and it was agreed between the parties that the price should be stated as, say, \$80,000. This practice was exposed in several cases that came before the Supreme Court after the collapse of the boom, and so far as we know it has not been adopted since. The element of speculation, however, remains, and that element must necessarily render the prices at which properties have changed hands at this or that date a less reliable criterion of their true value than the official assessment.

THE NAVY LEAGUE.

No better testimonial to the utility of the Navy League could be found than the fact that a similar organisation has been started in Germany. A Berlin telegram received by the American mail informs us that a new navy society has been organised under the presidency of Prince PHILIP VON HOHENLOHE, the Imperial Chancellor's eldest son, and under the patronage of Prince HENRY of Prussia and the Grand Duke of Baden. The object of the organisation, which in the first week of its existence secured 230,000 members, is to constantly agitate the question of increasing the strength of the navy. Whether a powerful navy is necessary to Germany or not is a point we are not now concerned to discuss, but assuming it to be necessary no better means could be devised for securing it than that of educating public opinion on the subject by means of a popular organisation such as the Navy League. Hitherto the German Government has had some difficulty in securing the adoption of its naval programme owing to opposition in the legislature, a large party considering the proposed expenditure unnecessary. An

organisation such as that recently established will wield a potent influence in working up popular enthusiasm and bringing pressure to bear on those members of the legislature who are opposed to the naval programme.

Whatever differences of opinion may exist as to the necessity of a strong navy for Germany there can be little difference on the same subject as applied to Great Britain. The possession of a strong navy is essential to our very existence as a nation. It is unnecessary to labour that point, as it is admitted by almost everyone who has given the question consideration. Here and there may be found a man like Mr. LABOUCHERE who thinks that if we left our gates unbarred the world is so honest that no one would come in to steal our possessions; but it is not so much active opposition to the maintenance of a strong navy that the Navy League has to contend with as the indifference which is apt to creep over the country from time to time. When international difficulties are in the air and the outlook abroad is dark the people wake up to the importance of the navy and are ready to vote anything for it, but when the clouds pass away the enthusiasm dies down, indifference supervenes, and Ministers, anxious to make a good financial showing, may be only too ready to shelve the demands for the navy. Not that they in reality underrate the importance of the subject if their attention be directed to it, but if no immediate emergency threatens they can easily persuade themselves to let the matter stand over to a more convenient season, or until another Government is in power. The history of the past shows a record of waves of enthusiasm on the subject of the navy followed by periods of indifference. The object of the Navy League is to keep the interest in the subject alive and to secure continuity and stability in our naval policy. If there are any doubters concerning the value of the League's work they ought to be convinced by the fact that the organisation is deemed good enough to be imitated in Germany.

SUPREME COURT.

June 3rd.

IN PROBATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

LEUNG HUNG SUNG V. LEUNG NGAN PAN.

In this case Mr. Francis, Q.C., appeared for plaintiff, Leung Hung Sung; Dr. Ho Kai for defendant, Leung Ngan Pan; and Mr. Slade for the intervenors. This was a motion for an order that Mr. Bruce Shepherd be appointed administrator *pendente lite* of the estate and effects of Leung Wai Hing (deceased).

Mr. Francis said he believed his learned friends consented not only to the appointment of an administrator *pendente lite*, but also that Mr. Bruce Shepherd should be appointed by his lordship to be such administrator.

Dr. Ho Kai said he agreed to this, but at the same time some affidavits had been filed by the other side which were out of the question altogether. They were entirely unnecessary, and the greater part of plaintiff's affidavit was also unnecessary, and in consequence he would ask his lordship to disallow the costs.

Mr. Slade said he also consented to the motion, but at the same time made a similar application in reference to the affidavits filed on behalf of plaintiff as that made by Dr. Ho Kai.

Mr. Francis spoke in justification of the filing of the affidavits.

His Lordship granted the order asked for. With regard to the affidavits, he thought it was necessary to file affidavits in support of the motion—at any rate formal affidavits. To a certain extent it was clear that these affidavits

were necessary for the purpose of the motion, and he suggested that the question with reference to the costs thereby incurred should be deferred.

6th June.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND MR. JUSTICE WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

LI SHU v. TSOI HEUNG PO AND ANOTHER.

This was an appeal by the plaintiff from the decision of Mr. Justice Wise given on March 22nd. The suit was brought in the original jurisdiction to recover \$5,000 for money lent to two defendants. Judgment was given in default of appearance against second defendant, and with regard to the other defendant judgment was given for him with costs.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., (instructed by Messrs. Deacon and Hastings), appeared for appellant and Mr. Slade (instructed by Mr. Ewens) for respondent.

Mr. Francis said this was an appeal under the provisions of the Supreme Court Reconstruction Ordinance from the decision of Mr. Justice Wise given in the Original Jurisdiction of that court in the case of Li Shu v. Tsoi Heung Po and another. Judgment was delivered on the 22nd March last. The hearing of the case commenced on the 17th January, 1898, and continued on the 18th, 19th, and 20th. Then the further hearing was adjourned till the 7th of March, and it went on continuously till the 15th of March, occupying ten days. The notice of motion asked that the judgment delivered on the 22nd March should be reversed or in the alternative that a re-hearing or new trial should be ordered. Of course under the provisions of the Supreme Court Reconstruction Ordinance there were no provisions in detail as to the nature of the appeal which was granted by that Ordinance. It simply provided that an appeal should exist as of right, and as their lordships were aware, there was no appeal or court of appeal in Hongkong in any shape or form until after this Ordinance of 1873 was passed; so that the only guide they could have must be by analogy from the practice of Court of Appeal under the Summary Jurisdiction Ordinance, where some detailed provisions had been made, or by analogy to the procedure in appeal in courts in England. Under section 41 of the Summary Court Ordinance, where the appeal was practically based on a question of fact—and the whole of that case was only on questions of fact—the full court could deal with the case solely upon the evidence originally taken or could re-examine any witness previously examined, and hear any further evidence, or might hear the case *de novo*. Therefore it was that this notice of motion had been framed with an alternative—in the first instance simply as an appeal for a reversal of the judgment, on the materials before the court below, but that if after hearing the whole argument their lordships should think it advisable, there should be a re-hearing or a new trial. After citing cases dealing with this point Mr. Francis said that this suit was brought originally for money lent on two promissory notes. The petition filed in September, 1897, said plaintiff Li Shu was a banker carrying on business at 46, Winglok Street, Victoria. Defendants in the case were Tsoi Heung Po and Tso Cheung. Defendants were then or were recently trading and carrying on business in partnership at Canton under the style or firm known as the Fu Shun Tong. Plaintiff lent to defendants on the 26th February, last year, the sum of \$3,000, and on the 27th February, last year \$2,000, and defendants by two several promissory notes made and dated respectively February 27th, 1897, and March 2nd, 1897, promised to repay to plaintiff the said sums of \$3,000 and \$2,000 with interest at the rate of 14 per centum per annum within 20 days of the dates. When, however, plaintiff demanded payment defendants refused, and neither plaintiff nor anyone on his behalf had yet been paid. Mr. Francis read over the evidence given before Mr. Justice Wise, and the hearing was adjourned.

9th June.

Mr. Slade, in opening the case for respondent, said that when his learned friend opened his case on Monday last he quoted to their lordships a number of authorities to explain what the duties of a Court of Appeal, in an appeal from a single judge sitting alone, were; and from those authorities he drew what he (Mr. Slade) ventured to submit were one or two true deductions, and one deduction for which not a shadow of authority could be found in any one of them. That proposition was that their lordships ought to go through the entire evidence in the case and then compare it with the decision of the Court below, and if they found the decision of this court agreed with the decision of the court below, they should dismiss the appeal, or if they were doubtful they should dismiss the appeal, but that if they arrived at a decision—without any regard for the opinion expressed by the judge who heard the case in the court below—different from that arrived at by the judge who heard the case in court below, then they should grant the appeal. There was no authority whatsoever for that proposition, but there was an authority—an authority which his learned friend quoted—absolutely dead against it. He referred to the case of the Colonial Trust Company v. Massey, 1896, Queens Bench. After quoting from the decision in this case, Mr. Slade said that from that decision it clearly appeared that the burden of proof that the judgment was wrong lay upon the appellant, and it further appeared that if the judgment of the judge in the court below was founded upon the demeanour or credibility of the witnesses whom he had before him in the witness box the Court of Appeal would be very loth to disturb his judgment. The report of what a witness said might be a very untrue criterion of a man's evidence. A man might have given his evidence well or he might have given it badly. He might have been a taciturn witness or he might have been a garrulous witness. He might have spoken carefully or he might have spoken recklessly. They could not see from a written report how a witness gave his evidence, and that must necessarily be a very powerful ingredient in determining the judge whether to believe a witness or to disbelieve him. His learned friend said that the judge in the court below decided the case upon the wrong principle. He said that if the judge in the court below had considered the case up side down he would have come to a different conclusion. That was the substance of his arguments. He said the judge ought to have considered first of all whether the money was lent, and then having come to a decision on this point he should have decided whether the promissory notes were forgeries or not. He said the judge had decided the case on a subsidiary point. He decided that the promissory notes were forged, and it having been proved to the satisfaction of the judge that the promise to pay was a forgery, what became of the cause of action? It was the only part of the case on which they required an opinion. His learned friend said they admitted this was money lent, but that was pure imagination on the part of his learned friend. He admitted that money was paid by plaintiff, but it was a repayment by him of money lent. Whatever view their lordships might take of this evidence, he submitted it was impossible to arrive at that decision without grave doubt. If that was their attitude of mind, he submitted that on the authority quoted by his learned friend and himself their lordships must then dismiss the appeal.

Mr. Francis contended that their lordships had according to all the cases cited to re-consider the whole of the material that was before the learned judge in the court below and nothing else. It was no portion of the material before the learned judge in the court below what his own judgment was. If they arrived at the conclusion that the judge in the court below was absolutely right they confirmed his judgment. If they came to the conclusion he was wrong then they reversed his judgment. If after considering the material before the learned judge in the court below they were doubtful as to what their decision ought to be then they affirmed his decision, and then, and then only, did they look to his decision. In

conclusion Mr. Francis formally moved their lordships for a reversal of the judgment of the judge in the court below.

Their Lordships reserved judgment.

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

IMPORTANT DESPATCHES FROM THE PHILIPPINES.

THE MOVEMENTS OF THE INSURGENTS.

COLLISIONS WITH THE SPANIARDS.

TWO SPANISH GOVERNORS TAKEN PRISONERS.

EXPECTED SURRENDER OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

7th June.

The despatches brought from Manila by H.M.S. *Swift*, which arrived in the harbour yesterday afternoon, were exceptionally interesting. They lead one to conclude, however, that in consequence of the straits to which he has been reduced it is not at all improbable that by the time the first batch of troops arrives from San Francisco the Governor-General of the Philippines may have surrendered and the Americans and their native allies may be in possession of Manila. In this event a bombardment will be obviated and the many quaint and beautiful buildings which the city contains saved from destruction. A detective in the employ of the Americans reported to head-quarters last week that the Governor-General wanted to surrender, but that his officers prevailed upon him to consent to hold out a little longer. What may be termed the beginning of the end was commenced by Aguinaldo and his troops on Monday, the 30th ult., since when they have done everything they can to weary and annoy and harass the Spaniards, already in anything but a fit condition, on account of bad feeding, to do justice to themselves in the field. Aguinaldo is reported to have completely routed them yesterday week, when he took 400 prisoners, including 28 officers. On Wednesday he took 250 prisoners and captured four field pieces, and on Thursday he was besieging 150 Spaniards in old Cavite Church. Rather than bombard the church, which has walls four feet thick, he had decided to starve them out, and no doubt by now they have fallen into his hands. The battle last Wednesday took place in sight of the fleet on the coast between Manila and Cavite. The insurgents have taken close upon 700 more rifles from the enemy.

In a communication to Consul-General Wildman, Aguinaldo's secretary reports that the insurgent forces have captured the province of Cavite, except four towns, and taken the Governor prisoner. The Governor of Batangas is also in Aguinaldo's hands and other towns are in possession of the insurgents, who are advancing from the other provinces. The Secretary adds that the number of Spanish prisoners is about 1,200 and the number of natives who are prisoners in the hands of the Spaniards about 800.

An American officer writes that the insurgents are treating their prisoners very well.

Since his capture the Governor of the province of Batangas has attempted to commit suicide.

2,500 men from San Francisco are expected at Manila on the 16th. On the way they will reduce the Ladrones and coal there.

Some of the Spanish vessels which were shut up in the River Pasig have with the permission of Admiral Dewey and the Governor-General been got out and allowed to change their flag, and have been placed alongside the men-of-war, so that when the last struggle comes they may be utilised for the housing of the foreign residents, other than Spanish, in Manila.

The volcano, Mount Taal, is in eruption.

THE SITUATION AS VIEWED IN MANILA.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 2nd June.

A few days ago the Spanish were unpleasantly enlightened as to the value of the hopes they

had placed upon their self-termed native allies. It will be remembered that since the occupation of Cavite by the American sailors the Spanish authorities have flattered themselves with the assumption that the belligerent Indians hitherto rebellious against Spanish rule had decided to fight for Spain against her new adversaries. As a matter of course proclamations were issued in which the Indians who were previously too utterly vile to find mention in grave official documents except under the general cognomen of rebels, were now treated to affectionate terms of endearment and called "brothers!" Henceforth the rebels would be rebellious no longer, but had, according to the authorities—whose word or understanding one dare not impugn—found cause with the Spanish and would fight against the Yankees, the would-be spoilers of their holy Catholic religion. This was perhaps the string harped upon, although the spiritual advisers had overlooked the fact that probably one third of the Yankees were members of the same Church. But the satisfaction of the Spanish in this miraculous conversion of the rebels received its first rude shock last Sunday when it was made known that the day before three priests whilst waiting at a railway station at or near Geronda had been suddenly attacked and killed by the rebels, whilst another priest and doctor escaped, though injured, with their lives.

On the following morning the Spanish were compelled to relinquish the idea of Indian support in toto, for about 3.30 a.m. they were awakened from their slumbers at Bacoar by a terrific onslaught of rebels. This town, which lies between Cavite and Manila, is in the centre of what is termed Aguinaldo's district and some time ago the Spanish troops had considerable difficulty in taking it from the possession of the rebels. A task which had taken the Spanish months was completed by the rebels in a morning, for after ten hours' hard fighting the Spaniards were driven out of the place along the Cavite road to Las Piñas, a position which they now occupy, through having destroyed the bridge behind them covering their retreat. To say that they occupy that position now is perhaps too definite, because all day yesterday were heard incessant volleys of musketry intermingled with the heavier boom of the field guns. Of the fight at Bacoar but little is known as the Spanish decline to give any information and refuse to allow any correspondent to proceed to the front. Even the Spanish newspapers here were only permitted to publish the news of the fight last night and they of course represented it as a tremendous Spanish victory. The *Comercio* states that six were killed, thirty wounded, and three received contusions. I personally counted over 200 wounded Spanish, and know that one colonel and two majors were killed. Of a marine company of 300 men, according to several Spanish officers, only 12 escaped, and the dead, amounting to several hundred, were buried in deep trenches at Las Piñas. Over 40 officers were killed and wounded, and the men of one of the Indian regiments, hitherto considered to have been the most loyal and one of the bravest, massacred its officers and joined the rebels. Of the rebels killed there were no doubt many, and they paid dearly for their victory. Those natives who can be relied upon state the rebel loss to be close upon 2,000 killed and wounded, though their actual loss from personal observation I know not.

The rebels are on a somewhat different footing to when the Spanish last met them. They are now armed with magazine rifles, 5,000 of which with 200,000 rounds of ammunition they received from Admiral Dewey, and 4,500 rifles were brought to them last week in a steamer from Amoy whose name no one appears to have remembered. They have also with them field pieces, and, it is said, machine guns, and even at the present moment there comes the occasional boom of a field piece and volleys of musketry, showing what rapid use the rebels are making of their new arms. If anything testified to a Spanish defeat it was the state of the city on Monday night. The Luneta, which the previous evening was one mass of carriages, was deserted, and the streets were paraded all night by armed volunteers and strong pickets posted on all the bridges. The Spanish state that the severe fighting again yesterday was the result of their endeavouring

to drive the rebels from Bacoar and their acknowledgement of this position being held by the rebels is somewhat out of harmony with a Spanish victory. The other and probably most reliable version is that the rebels have advanced and attacked Las Piñas, which the Spanish are fighting as hard and no doubt as bravely as possible to hold. It simply means, however, that the Spanish will be overborne by weight of numbers, for with the mutiny of the Indian troops and volunteers they cannot weaken their other and more important posts to contest with the rebels at Las Piñas. Fighting has also taken place in other parts on the north and east of Manila, and yesterday it was found that the rebels had pulled up the railway seven kilometres from Manila. Should the rebels get possession of San Juan del Monte then the capture of the city is simple a matter of days. No attack will be needed as the communications of the Spaniards will be completely cut off and with them their supplies. As it is, provisions, which have kept up remarkably well hitherto, are getting daily more scanty, as every available husbandman appears to have given up his usual duties to follow the victorious banners of the rebels. The defences encircling the city itself are being improved, the moat deepened, the walls cleaned, and all shrubbery and trees affording cover destroyed. It appears that the Spanish as a last resource really intend shutting themselves up behind the old walls, grim old relics bristling with brass culverins of the last century mounted evidently for use. The engineers evidently forget that a few ten-inch shells will lay the whole city, walls included, in ruins, and the firing of the brass guns may draw upon thousands of helpless women and children within the walls a terrible death. Should the rebels continue their victorious advance then by the time those long-talked-of American troops arrive Manila will be in the hands of the American Admiral. It is said that Aguinaldo renders himself conspicuous by his bravery, and there is no doubt that the movements of the rebel forces are being actively directed by the Americans. Last night's paper has it that Admiral Dewey has confined Aguinaldo to prison because he asserted that the whole of the province was in the hands of the rebels and the brave defence of Bacoar testified it was not.

Ample provision has at last been made for the removal of the foreign residents in case of bombardment. Eight steamers with the consent of the Spanish Captain-General and the sanction of Admiral Dewey have been removed from the river, and when the notice of bombardment is given two will be allotted to English, two to German, one to French, one to Belgian, and four to Chinese subjects, the latter being under the care of the British Consul. Mr. Jones, the energetic and courteous agent of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, has arranged to send all his money on board H.M.S. *Immortalite*. It is thus to be hoped the anxiety of the British community is somewhat at rest, and its feelings somewhat assuaged. As your contemporaries have pointed out, the relations of the British community and its Consular staff have not been as pleasant as one would expect in such a crisis. Several members, with perhaps more vociferousness than judgment, blame the Consul for sins of commission and omission, but when these grievances come to be analysed, and the office of the Consul taken into consideration, they amount to little. The residents have certainly themselves to blame for one thing, inasmuch they were never decided on what course to adopt and what action the Consul in dealing with the Spanish and American authorities might take for them. When one is unused to official ways, especially in a time calculated to unstring the nerves of a man having the responsibility of a family on his shoulders, one is apt to grow vexed with what appears useless though essentially necessary formula. The Britisher hates circumlocution, but there are periods when a little is judicious if not necessary, especially when, as in the case at Manila, it has to be approved by two authorities who are adversaries. But that stage is now passed and should any unfortunate individual Britisher get injured or shaken he will have himself to thank. It is the Britisher's prerogative to grumble, but when the facts have been looked squarely in the face there should be no want of unanimity in joining in a vote of

thanks to Mr. Rawson Walker, H. B. M.'s Consul, and Mr. H. A. Ramsden, the Vice-Consul, for their courtesy and willingness to provide for the safety and welfare of the subjects under their charge.

It may be mentioned that last week a cricket match, the first since 1885, was played on a ground adjoining the Luneta between an eleven from the *Immortalite* and an eleven residents, and ended in a draw. It excited the greatest interest and the result was very creditable to the home team.

THE OPERATIONS DESCRIBED BY A FILIPINO.

A Filipino resident supplies us with the following information received by him in a letter from the insurgent camp:—

Aguinaldo has won a great victory in Cavite province, and two thousand Spanish soldiers are now hemmed in. Three hundred men were killed on the Spanish side and one General, ten pieces of artillery being captured and six hundred rifles. In the church of Old Cavite three hundred Spaniards are beleaguered, but Aguinaldo does not want to bombard them expecting that they will surrender. The province of Batangas is in rebellion, the Spanish forces there have been defeated, and the Governor of the province is a prisoner. Nearly the whole province of Cavite is now in the hands of the Insurgents. These operations began on the 28th May and ended on the 1st June.

PROCLAMATION BY AGUINALDO. [TRANSLATED FOR THE "DAILY PRESS."] FILIPINOS,—

The Great North American nation, the repository of true liberty and therefore the friend of freedom for our nation, oppressed and subjugated by the tyranny and despotism of its rulers, has come to afford to the inhabitants a protection as decisive as it is undoubtedly disinterested, regarding our unfortunate country as possessing sufficient civilisation and aptitude for self-government, and in order to justify this high conception formed of us by the great American nation we ought to reprobate all such acts as may derogate from that conception, such as pillage, robbery, and every class of outrage against person or property. In order to avoid international conflicts during the period of our campaign I order as follows:—

Art. I.—The lives and property of all foreigners shall be respected, including in this denomination the Chinese and all Spaniards who have not directly or indirectly contributed to the bearing of arms against us.

Art. II.—Equally shall be respected those of the enemy who shall lay down their arms.

Art. III.—Medical establishments and ambulances shall also be respected and the persons and effects attached thereto unless they display hostility.

Art. IV.—Persons disobeying the provisions of the three preceding articles shall be summarily tried and executed if their disobedience leads to assassination, incendiarism, robbery, or rape.

Given at Cavite, the 24th May, 1898.

EMILIO AGUINALDO.

This proclamation bears a seal with the legend "Gobierno Dictatorial Filipinas."

ANOTHER PROCLAMATION.

The following translation of the proclamation of the rebel leaders, then resident in Hongkong, sent over to the Philippines in advance of the American squadron is published by the *Singapore Free Press*:—

COMPATRIOTS!

The Divine Providence is about to place independence within our reach, and in a way the most free and independent nation could hardly wish for.

The Americans, not from mercenary motives but for the sake of humanity, and the lamentations of so many persecuted people, have considered it opportune to extend their protecting mantle to our beloved country, now that they have been obliged to sever relations with Spain, owing to the tyranny this nation is exercising in Cuba, causing enormous injury to the Americans, who have such large commercial and other interests there.

At the present moment an American squadron is preparing to sail for the Philippines.

We, your brothers, are very much afraid that you may be induced to fire on the Americans.

No, brothers, never make this mistake. Rather blow your own brains out, than fire one shot, or treat as enemies those who are your liberators.

Your natural enemies, your executioners, the authors of your misery and your unhappiness, are the Spaniards who govern you. Against these you must raise your weapons and your odium. Understand well, against the Spaniards and never against the Americans.

Take no notice of the decree of the Governor-General calling you to arms, although it may cost you your lives. Rather die than be ungrateful to our American liberators. The Governor-General calls you to arms. What for? To defend your Spanish tyrants? To defend those that have despised you, and even in public speeches asked for your extermination, those that have treated you little better than savages? No! no! a thousand times no!

Give a glance at history and you will see that all the wars undertaken by Spain in Oceania here sacrificed Philippine blood; we have been sent to fight in Cochinchina to assist the French, in an affair which in no way concerned the Philippines; we were compelled to spill our blood by Simon de Anda against the English, who in any case would have been better rulers than the Spaniards; every year our sons are taken away to be sacrificed in Mindanao and Sulu, pretending to make us believe those inhabitants are our enemies when in reality they are our brothers, like us fighting for their independence.

After having sacrificed our blood against the English, against the Annamites, against the Mindanaos, etc., what recompense or thanks have we received from the Spanish Government? Obscurity, poverty, the butchery of our dear ones. Enough, brothers, of this Spanish tutelage!

Take note, the Americans will attack by sea and prevent any reinforcements coming from Spain; therefore the insurgents must attack by land. Probably you will have more than sufficient arms, because the Americans have arms and will find means to assist us.

There where you see the American flag flying, assemble in numbers; they are our redeemers.

Our unworthy names are as nothing, but one and all invoke the name of the greatest patriot our country has seen in the sure and certain hope that his spirit will be with us in these moments and guide us to victory our immortal

JOSÉ RIZAL.

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF LAST WEEK'S FIGHTING.

GENERAL AGUINALDO'S ACCOUNT.

AN AMERICAN CAPTAIN ON THE INSURGENTS.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

PRAISE FOR ADMIRAL DEWEY.

8th June.

The accounts of last week's fighting in the neighbourhood of Manila are unanimous in stating that General Aguinaldo and those of whom he is in command have shown that they are made of much better stuff than was generally supposed, and that, despite their lack of training, when properly armed they are at any rate capable of coping with the soldiers of Spain with a good chance of success. Consul-General Wildman has been of this opinion all along, and we believe we are right in stating that it was largely due to his representations that Admiral Dewey determined to give them a chance and see what they could do unaided by their American allies.

A Captain on one of the American vessels writes us:—"The Insurgents are gaining all the time. They have taken between 500 and 600 Spanish prisoners, who are now in prison at Cavite. They have (June 4th) a small troop of Spaniards hemmed in at old Cavite which a column of Spanish troops from Manila tried to liberate the day before yesterday, but after a spirited engagement of about five hours the Spaniards had to withdraw—a very great victory for the rebels, considering the difference

in training between their forces and the regular Spanish troops. Every day and almost every hour of the day there is some firing going on, and the rebels seem to gain ground or at least hold their own all the time. My opinion of them has undergone a radical change since the arrival of Aguinaldo. The Spaniards have certainly lost all the time since he came. Now they are losing on the North side of the bay, and if our people don't hurry up there won't be any Spanish army for them to fight. The Manila papers have accounts of the late fighting in which they say the American sailors took part. I emphatically deny this. No American ships—boats or men—have taken any part in the land fights, and all statements to the contrary are simply bare-faced falsehoods."

The American Admiral has presented General Aguinaldo with a "schon" (a small flat-bottomed boat). The insurgent leader has mounted a small gun on it, and mightily amuses the Americans by every now and then sailing in full view of the Spaniards and challenging them to mortal combat.

On the first inst. the British ship *Cyrus* arrived at Manila with 4,500 tons of coal for the American fleet.

The fleet have a good view of Mount Taal, which is now in eruption, and the sight, particularly in the evening, is said to be a beautiful one.

Admiral Dewey writes Consul-General Wildman that he does not intend to send another despatch boat until about four days after the departure of the *Swift*.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila Bay, 3rd June.

General Aguinaldo and his assistants are bringing order out of the masses of the rebels and are making things lively for the Spaniards. Severe fighting has gone on for several days, the most business-like exchange of arms taking place on Wednesday, when operations of both sides were visible to the fleet on the bay shore between Cavite and Manila. Firing of both rifles and field guns continued all day and into the night. The work was not very deadly, as far as can be learned, but the insurgents came off with flying colours. It is known that they captured at least 400 Spanish regulars, including seven officers and a lieutenant-colonel of the line. Other reports which have reached the flagship state that as many as 1,000 Spanish regulars and native forces were captured. Cavite is full of prisoners that are plain evidence that the insurgents did good work.

General Aguinaldo reports that not over eight of his men were killed, but the Spanish loss must be much larger in view of the result of the battle.

Imus, an important point at the back of Cavite, has been captured by the insurgents from the Spaniards. This means a serious loss to the latter and a gain to the former, because it is an outlet to the surrounding country and through it supplies were brought into Manila. It will also be a station from which to make further advances. Old Cavite, on the way to Manila, is also practically in the insurgents' hands, being occupied by them, with the exception of an old stone church in which are a force of Spaniards trying to hold out against the insurgents, but who will soon be compelled to surrender. Spanish troops seeking to relieve this besieged garrison were among those captured by the insurgents during the last few days.

If the insurgents continue this kind of work they will have the way well prepared for the American troops when the latter arrive.

The news of this defeat of the Spaniards has cast a gloom over Manila, and foreign residents seem to be more anxious than ever to get away. At least the action of the consuls in chartering ships, by permission of Admiral Dewey, upon which they can come as refugees if necessary, shows the state of feeling in Manila. Within the last few days several more Spanish vessels have been allowed to come out of the Pasig under the British, French, and German flags, and have taken anchorage near the respective war ships.

In these transactions Admiral Dewey is showing great confidence in the consuls and naval commanders of other Powers as well as con-

sideration for foreigners and their interests in Manila. All these fine ships would be legitimate prizes of the American fleet if it took the city of Manila. They are temporarily placed under foreign protection, but Admiral Dewey has the word of the consuls and commanders that no further use than that asked shall be made of them and that they shall eventually be turned over to him.

The most friendly relations exist between these consuls and commanders on the one side and Admiral Dewey on the other, and the former are outspoken in their appreciation of his kindnesses and courtesies, as well as admiration of his abilities as a naval officer and of his direction of the blockade.

The Spanish officials and the Archbishop are doing all in their power to make the natives join with them, but they are not meeting with success. Aguinaldo and his followers are increasing their forces every day and now have strong outposts in the north of Manila as well as near Cavite. The railway is practically cut and the company promised compensation for their losses by the insurgents.

Supplies are coming into Manila only in small quantities, despite reports to the contrary, and the outlook is growing darker every day. Valuables are being sent away or hidden, and every one lives in expectation of riot and looting at the hands of the unpaid and unfed Spanish soldiers. The regulars captured and detained at Cavite are a sorry looking lot, and if they are a true sample of the entire force they will be no match for the American soldiers en route, despite adverse conditions of climate and health.

Consul Williams has been on shore at Cavite to-day, in conference with General Aguinaldo.

The *Zafiro* arrived yesterday with the following passengers:—Lieut. Maclean, in command; the Admiral's Secretary, Ensign Caldwell; Fleet Paymaster Smith and Assistant Long; the late U.S. Minister to Bangkok, Mr. John Barrett; Dr. Page, of the *Olympia*; and Mr. Johnson.

The *Swift* leaves to-day for Hongkong and takes the mail.

FROM THE INSURGENT CAMP.

According to a letter received from General Aguinaldo by one of his friends in Hongkong, dated 31st May, the insurgents had captured the towns and villages of Bacoar, Dasmariñas, Rozario, Mendez, Marigondon, Bailen, Alfonso, Magallanes, Amadeo, Tansa, Carmona, and Imus, all in the province of Cavite. The insurgent leader before opening the attack on any village or town gave notice to the officer commanding the Spanish forces and summoned him to surrender. In one case a reply was received stating that the garrison was not quite ready to fight and requesting that the attack might be kindly deferred for three hours, which request was complied with. The first engagement took place in the village of Cavite, on the 28th May, when the insurgents captured in the morning 19 Spanish soldiers with their arms and ammunition, and towards evening they hemmed in 190 Cazadores and 70 loyal native soldiers and volunteers. In this engagement the insurgents lost four killed, the loss on the Spanish side being 16 killed, including one officer.

Fighting then became general throughout Cavite province, with the result that up to the date of this letter more than 2,000 Spanish soldiers with their officers had been taken prisoners, and the Spanish General Leopoldo Peña, Governor of the province of Cavite, had surrendered, handing to General Aguinaldo his sword, revolver, and gold lace belt, together with a letter formally stating his surrender.

In the meantime General Aguinaldo had sent to the province of La Laguna his officers Mascardo, Martines, and Aguinaldo (General Aguinaldo's nephew), who surrounded the villages of Binang, San Pedro, Tunasan, Sta. Rosa and Babuyan. He also sent to the province of Bulacan General del Pilar, who had already at the date of the letter succeeded in taking some of the villages there.

The total Spanish loss in killed and wounded is said to have been 800, while the insurgents lost 30 killed. 2,500 rifles were taken by the insurgents from their prisoners.

THE STEAMER "PASIG" RAIDED.

EXTENSIVE SEIZURE OF ARMS
AND AMMUNITION.

WERE THEY FOR MANILA?

10th May.

On Wednesday it was reported that the Canton steamer *Pasig* had been purchased from Mr. Tsang Sam Yung, and that it was understood she was about to ply between Manila and Hongkong. In view of this announcement some commotion was caused in the city during the day when it oozed out that the vessel had been raided by the police and a large quantity of arms and ammunition seized. The full particulars will not be divulged until the matter is investigated at the Magistracy, but the following is the story told to us. It was understood that the *Pasig* was bound for Tientsin with arms and ammunition for the Chinese Government, and we are informed that the requisite permit from the Harbour Master had been obtained. In the meantime however, the suspicions of the police were aroused, and after enquiry they came to the conclusion that Manila and not Tientsin was the destination of the vessel. Accordingly on Wednesday night the Harbour-Master and representatives of the Police Force visited the vessel. They went alongside again yesterday, and took possession of some 200 or 300 rifles which were on board and several thousand rounds of ammunition. The cargo also included some ten tons or more of ice, a fact which confirmed the police in the view that the vessel intended going to the Philippines rather than to the north.

Yesterday afternoon Inspector Kemp and Sergeant Kerr, of the Water Police, made a further inspection. On presenting themselves something of a scene took place between them and Captain Ellis. "Who are you?" asked the latter. "I'm an inspector of the Water Police," replied Inspector Kemp. The Inspector wore a white uniform coat and blue trousers and Sergeant Kerr a full police uniform. The Captain however, told the Inspector he was not in uniform, and then asked to see his warrant. Having satisfied the captain on this head, another altercation ensued when the police were about to commence their search, the captain declaring that the Inspector should not enter his cabin. Ultimately he was mollified, and after doing their duty the police departed.

We await a full explanation of the affair with interest.

THE BATTLE OF CAVITE.

FROM A SPANISH POINT OF VIEW.

In the *Comercio* of the 2nd June there is published an apology and vindication of Admiral Montojo and the Spanish fleet defeated at Cavite by the United States squadron on the 1st May. Setting aside the question of courage, which is not in dispute, the apology seems to resolve itself into a most complete condemnation of the naval administration on the grounds of ignorance, incompetence, and negligence. The Admiral seems, according to this account, to have been unacquainted even with the condition of the port of Subic, a most important position only a few hours' steaming from Manila, his headquarters. As to the relative strength of the two squadrons, the damage actually inflicted on the *Baltimore* shows that the Spaniards might have made the visitors pay much more dearly for their success had the fleet been handled with moderate intelligence. The fact of some of the vessels being found in a state of unpreparedness after the long notice that had been given that their services would probably be required speaks for itself. The article (which is signed with a *nom de plume*) is as follows:—

At all times and in every page of the national history recording the actions of our navy, there stands out resplendently as an emblem of gallantry and symbol of greatness a personal valour and firmness of honour which may well be termed heroic. The glorious combat of Trafalgar and the more recent one of Callao are sufficient in themselves to prove this. "I prefer honour without vessels to vessels without honour" were the words that immortalised the heroic

Mendez Nunez in the glorious combat of Callao, and they must have recurred to the mind of Admiral Montojo, who was present on that occasion as navigating officer of the frigate *Almansa*, thirty-two years later when he commanded the Spanish squadron on the bloody day of the 1st May in the waters of Cavite, a day, which, notwithstanding the disaster of our defeat, ought to add another laurel to the crown our navy has earned by its glorious combats. This has been recognised by our beloved country, which immediately telegraphed to our Admiral glorifying the valiant sons that shed their blood for the honour of the flag. The same is recognised by all sensible persons, and, lastly, every one knows that even the enemy's Admiral himself, by sending to ours his congratulations upon the heroic defence maintained for three hours by our squadron, manifested his surprise that there should have been any defence at all by a squadron which he expected would have surrendered without firing a shot in view of the superior force with which it had to fight. In the opinion of all Spaniards the fleet fulfilled its duty, but at the risk of being tedious—which may be excused for the affection entertained for the navy—I cannot resist the temptation to publish a few notes founded on the statements of friends of the profession and which I believe will set right any mistaken opinions that may be held by the most ignorant in such matters. I repeat that it is not my desire to vindicate our squadron, to which I render a tribute of admiration and respect, while history in due time will inscribe in one of its most brilliant pages the bloody and glorious naval battle of Cavite.

Our Admiral was not ignorant of the slightest movements of the North American squadron from the time that it arrived in Hongkong in March last, leaving in Yokohama and Shanghai the families of the commanders and officers. Everything led to the belief that it was preparing for war and would assuredly come to Manila, especially the purchase of the English steamers *Nanshan* and *Zafiro* for which they paid \$400,000, with 4,600 tons of coal, stores, and munitions. The addition to the squadron of the cruiser *Baltimore*, of great fighting power, and of the *Helene* and *McCulloch*, of great speed, was known. It was known that the American squadron, composed of eight men-of-war and two transports were only waiting in Hongkong, where it had engaged persons well acquainted with the Archipelago, for the arrival of the Consul from Manila, in order to descend upon us with the primordial idea of destroying our squadron and arsenals so as to do away with the only peril that could threaten the valuable trade that the United States conduct with China and Japan.

The American force, as already stated, consisted of eight men-of-war and two transports, aggregating 30,000 tons, 43 guns of 12.5 to 20 c.m., about 100 guns of less than 12.5 c.m., 30 torpedo tubes, and about 2,000 men. The Spanish squadron, including the so-called cruisers *Ulloa* and *Castilla*, the first under repair and both without movement, numbered seven, with a total tonnage of 12,000, 27 guns of 12 to 16 c.m., 45 guns of less than 12 c.m., 14 torpedo tubes (the torpedoes for which had been taken out to defend as far as possible the entrances to the Bay), and 800 men. With respect to the speed and armour of the respective squadrons it is impossible to make a comparison; suffice it to say that some of the enemy's ships had a speed of 20 knots and none less than 16, while amongst ours the speediest did not exceed 13 knots and two of them were without any movement at all, and that the enemy's vessels were all protected, while of ours only the cruisers *Cuba* and *Luzon*, which are more properly speaking gunboats of the first class, were protected, and that only slenderly. This slight comparison will give an idea of the difference between the American and Spanish squadrons.

It appears that foreseeing what would happen, and conscious of the defenceless condition of the squadron and the ports of the Archipelago, the naval commander-in-chief repeatedly since the middle of last year requested His Majesty's Government to provide him with two or even with one ironclad with which he could assume the offensive, and he even had an idea of attacking the ports of the Californian coast. From this point of view, and supposing the port of Subic well defended, this was naturally indicated as the point to be protected by the Spanish

squadron, serving as it would as a basis of operations from which to surprise the enemy's squadron in the Bay of Manila, or as a means of dividing the enemy's forces, of which one portion would be required to blockade the Bay of Manila and the other the port of Subic, so that they could have been attacked in detail without a useless sacrifice of our squadron and its men. It was so resolved at a council of the naval commanders presided over by the Admiral. The deception suffered on arrival at the port of Subic, which, notwithstanding the accumulation there of all possible material, was completely undefended, on account of the want of time, showed that if our fleet remained there it would be completely destroyed without being able to offer the least resistance. The squadron was therefore obliged to return to the Bay of Manila, the defence of the Arsenal being determined upon and all the resources possible being utilised, including the cruiser *Ulloa*, under repair and without movement, and the *Castilla*, which was making so much water through her seams that she had to be grounded in a convenient position in order to assure her co-operation in the battle. Cavite was the only position for our squadron, which awaited only its own sacrifice for the honour of the country and the navy, drawing away the tide of battle from Manila and thus saving the population from probable total destruction by the artillery of the enemy's squadron.

When the sad 1st of May opened it was seen that the American squadron had forced the weak obstacles that the Navy, utilising therefore the material and men from the vessels under repair, had placed at the entrance to the Bay. The enemy's squadron, with its Admiral in the van, and proceeding at full speed and with good information, forced the large channel and directed itself to take possession of our vessels under the mistaken impression that the Spaniards would deliver them up without the least resistance. Great was the surprise of the Commodore on seeing that the Spaniards, far from surrendering, were disposed to sell their lives dearly. The battle commenced at five in the morning and went on until eight, when the enemy retired to the centre of the Bay to get up more ammunition. The cruisers *Castilla* and *Cristina* were completely burnt, the valiant Captain Cadarso being killed and the crews reduced by one half; the *Ulloa* was ashore; and Admiral Montojo hoisted his flag on the *Isla de Cuba*. This vessel and all the others that remained of the squadron having received serious damage and not a gun remaining serviceable they retired under the Arsenal, where, the Admiral understanding the instincts of the enemy, he ordered that, having defended themselves as long as it was possible, they should in the last resort be run ashore before being abandoned when they no longer had the means of resisting the least attack of the enemy.

At half-past eleven, having got up their ammunition and with renewed strength, the American squadron returned in front of the Arsenal, already in great part destroyed through having been the mark found by all the projectiles which passed over our small but gallant squadron. From half-past eleven to three the enemy continued the bombardment, there being not a single gun to answer them, and fire, destruction, and death spreading on every hand. In this trying and unsupportable situation a parley was solicited, from which it appeared that the sole desire of the enemy's Admiral was the total destruction of the vessels in the Arsenal, which as above stated, were already ashore. The conditions were acceded to by our Admiral, who consulted with the Commander of the Arsenal, in order to avoid the complete destruction of the establishment and town and the further loss of life.

The demands, which had appeared definite and confined to the cessation of opposition, did not end there, however, for the following day new demands were made, the time allowed for compliance being very short, requiring the evacuation of the arsenal and town of Cavite, under pain of a renewal of the bombardment until everything was destroyed and burnt, without taking into consideration the international treaties respecting hospitals, the wounded, sick, old men, women, and children. It was demanded that all the Spanish forces should be considered prisoners of war under

parole not to bear arms against the United States during the continuance of the war. These proposals were instantly rejected, the destruction of everything being preferred to the giving of the pledge required. A new parley secured honourable conditions, evacuation alone being required, and the forces leaving with all the honours of war, with their arms and ammunition, provided that they should not attempt to set fire to or otherwise destroy anything, the enemy on his part undertaking to respect the Geneva Convention and private property. At five in the evening the survivors of the battle and bombardment evacuated the Arsenal and retired upon Manila, where, exhausted by the fatigues and hardships of the march, they arrived on the morning of the 4th. More than 50 killed and 200 wounded out of the total of 800 men that composed the naval force are figures that sufficiently prove that the Navy knew how to seal with its blood the sacrifice that the country imposed upon it in honour of the flag.

From the Admiral to the last sailor, everyone foresaw the catastrophe. With the greatest pleasure they accepted the sacrifice of their lives, since the honour of the country and the navy required it. The rivers of tears and the lamentations evoked by the loss of such dear brothers are eclipsed and stilled by the glory which to-day falls on all who wear the honourable anchor button. To-day, without ships, having lost their effects, and some without wearing apparel, but with much honour, the survivors may be met in Manila, ready to share with their brothers of the land forces the hardships and perils that still darken our horizon. Peace and glory to the dead! History will render them justice!

PORTS STILL OPEN IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Senor José de Navarro, Spanish Consul, writes us as follows:—

El Ilmo. Senor Intendente de Filipinas informs me under date of 27th May last that the following ports remain open to foreign trade:—Sual (Pangasinan), Aparri (Cagayan de Luzon), Mauban (Tayabas), Legaspi y Tabaco (Albay), Sorsogon (Sorsogon), Catbalogan (Samar), Tacloban (Leyte) y Surigao (Mindanao).

THE WATER SUPPLY.

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Water Authority, courteously supplies us with the following water returns for May:—

On 1st June, 1898, the water in Tytam reservoir was 36 feet 11 inches below the overflow, representing a storage of 147 million gallons, while the water in Pokfulum reservoir was 24 feet 10 inches below the overflow, representing a storage of 15 million gallons. The total storage was thus 162 million gallons.

The following are the figures on the corresponding dates last year.

	Level.	Storage.
Tytam	10 feet 10 inches	306,000,000
Pokfulum...	1 " 3 "	63,000,000

Total 369,000,000.

The total consumption for all purposes during May was 91 million gallons, giving with an estimated population of 177,450 an average daily consumption of 16 gallons per head.

For the corresponding period last year the total consumption was 95 million gallons, or an average daily consumption of 17 gallons per head for the population of 169,000.

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

THE KOWLOON EXTENSION.

REPORTED FAILURE.

[BY A CORRESPONDENT.]

Time creeps on without anything official or definite being allowed to leak out in reference to the results of the negotiations with the Peking Government for a rectification of the boundaries of Hongkong. Germany is seated firmly at Kiaochow, Russia has taken possession of Port Arthur and Talienwan, France has hoisted the tricolour at Kwangchauwan, and British ships are very shortly to occupy Waihaiwei. But while these events are very

interesting to the world at large, the matter that most affects this colony is, without doubt, the enlargement of its frontiers to such an extent as will enable its garrison to provide for effective defence against bombardment or invasion. In regard to this matter we are asked to possess our souls in patience, to make ourselves quite easy that the interests of this important colony are not being neglected, and that all that is necessary will be secured. Now, under a statesman of the type of Lord Palmerston, we might be content to wait indefinitely, knowing full well that the interests of British trade would have paramount consideration, but the history of our recent diplomatic struggles has not been such as to imbue us with too strong a belief in the push or persistence of British diplomacy. We are ready to admit the difficulties that have faced the Foreign Minister, in the lack of veracity and want of scruple on the part of Russia, but this is no new experience, and it does not excuse want of foresight or determination. If report may be trusted, it seems only too probable that in the case of this colony the noble Lord the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs may prove less anxious for the accession of territory than for an easy settlement of the matter. It is rumoured, though we cannot say with what truth, that the only extension of territory obtained will be permission to erect fortifications and to control passes, and that the Chinese desire to retain the collection of the Customs revenue in this small district—backed of course by the voices of "four hundred millions of brave people"—will be regarded as an insurmountable obstacle in the way of the needed expansion of Hongkong. We sincerely trust that this rumour may be falsified by subsequent events, but we fear that it will prove only too well founded. If we fail to secure the desired extension of our boundaries there will be no one to blame but the British Foreign Office, the Hongkong Government, the Military and Naval Authorities past and present, the Navy League, the China Association, the Chamber of Commerce, the Press both in China and at home, have all urged the absolute necessity for such enlargement, and the Tsungli Yamen would have been at Sir Claude MacDonald's most obedient command, were it only known that his instructions were precise and peremptory. But when were Lord Salisbury's instructions ever peremptory? It may be said that we are anticipating evil, when we ought to repose confidence in the hands that guide the destinies of the Empire. We plead guilty, but in extenuation point to the failures of the past. Even such a trivial claim as that for the loss of the Indo-China S. N. Company's steamer *Kow-shing*, which M. Hanotaux or Baron Von Heyking would have settled in a month, has been allowed to drag on for years in interminable parleys and endless delays when there were really no debateable points in the case. It took the Foreign Office many years to wring from Peking the concession of the opening of the West River, although this should have been demanded as some slight compensation for the systematic evasion of the Treaties by the Kwangtung Authorities for a quarter of a century in refusing to allow the transit pass system in the Two Kwang. The awesome dread of the puissant Government representing four hundred millions of brave people seems to have weighed with crushing effect on successive occupants of the Foreign Secretariat, and even when Japan had carefully exposed the Jack-o'-lantern nature of the bogey Lord Salisbury has seemed unable to divest himself of the Yellow Terror. In his absence, Mr. Balfour, under the pressure of public opinion, ventured to demand the lease of Weihaiwei, and, no doubt to his noble uncle's immeasurable astonishment, promptly obtained it. Under the influence of that surprise, the Marquis has dubbed Sir Claude MacDonald a hero. We do not grudge the Minister the title, and we have much confidence that he could amply justify it either in the pursuit of his old profession or in the mazier paths of diplomacy, if only Lord Salisbury would give him a free hand for a few days and suspend telegraphic communication meanwhile. Under such conditions we doubt not that the Kowloon hinterland and the necessary islands would soon be ceded and the concession to make the railway from Kowloon to Canton and thence to Wuchang be granted without more ado.

MEMORIAL TO SISTER CARTRUDE AND SISTER FRANCES.

It is proposed to erect some memorial to the late Misses Ireland and Higgin. Their work for the colony, at the Government Civil Hospital, extended over a period of nearly eight years; they lost their lives while in the performance of their duties.

The form of the memorial will be decided at a meeting of subscribers, after the friends of the deceased have been communicated with.

Subscription lists will be found at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, at Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., Kelly & Walsh, and A. S. Watson & Co.

Subscriptions will also be received by Mrs. Wilsone Black, Lady Carrington, Mrs. S. C. Holland, and

T. JACKSON.

Hon. Treasurer, pro. tem.

POLO AND CAPTAIN LOVEBAND.

On Monday evening the Hon. T. H. Whitehead gave a little "farewell" at the "Charter House" to Capt. F. R. Loveband, who has been Honorary Secretary of the Hongkong Polo Club for the last three years and who left by the *Empress of China* on Wednesday for England. Most of the older playing members were present. Covers were laid for twenty and the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., occupied the vice-chair in his happiest form. On Capt. Loveband's menu, Ben-Jonson's very appropriate words were appended:—

To night, grave Sir, both my poor house and I
Do equally desire your company.

Not that we think us worthy such a guest,

But that your worth will dignify our feast.

In proposing the health of the guest of the evening Mr. Whitehead spoke in feeling terms of appreciation of the many and varied services rendered by Capt. Loveband to the Polo Club and all branches of sport, and said that Hongkong socially and otherwise would be all the poorer by the departure of the Polo Club's sporting and genial Secretary. The members and the whole community had keenly sympathised with Captain Loveband in his recent indisposition, and they all earnestly hoped that his trip to the old country would restore him to his usual good health and a long life of usefulness and happiness. Mr. Whitehead then on behalf of the members asked Capt. Loveband to accept of a silver salver as a small souvenir of their respect and esteem, which bore the following inscription:—

CAPTAIN F. R. LOVEBAND, A.D.C.,
FROM MEMBERS OF
THE HONGKONG POLO CLUB
IN RECOGNITION OF
SERVICES RENDERED
AS HONORARY SECRETARY.

The host gave a brief history of the Club since its formation some ten years ago, and referred to the farewell given to Major W. B. Fletcher, R.A., the founder and father of the Polo Club, at which the Chairman had said:—"Ever since the Club's birth Major Fletcher had nursed it with unceasing care and devotion. Through patience, perseverance and tact he had seen his baby grow in health, in wealth, and in strength, and develop into a fine, robust, hardy child. The child was proud of its father and from his smiling and genial expression of face it could be judged that the gallant Major was not ashamed of his off-spring. Our experience of the Major was a very happy one, in connection with the game of polo (the king of sports), his management of the gymkhana and sky meetings held under the auspices of the Club, and socially. His energy and resources in the promotion of manly healthy recreation were inexhaustible, while he was full of consideration for the feelings of those about him. From time to time in this constantly changing community the Club had lost many of its best playing members but memories of those friends and rare good fellows, who are a credit to their country, will long remain fresh with us." Mr. Whitehead said that many of these words equally applied to their gallant friend who was so soon to leave these shores, and referred to the fact that his brilliant play, excellent horsemanship, and sure and hard hitting would be remembered and emulated for years to come. The toast was then drunk in bumpers with musical and highland honours.

Captain Loveband suitably responded and proposed "Continued prosperity to the Polo Club" coupling therewith the name of the Hon. F. H. May, who replied in a speech teeming with Irish wit and humour. Other toasts, songs, and sentiments followed and a most enjoyable and happy evening was brought to a close by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

RICE RIOT AT LIENCHOW.

10th June.

Information is published by the native papers of a serious state of affairs at the city of Lienchow, due to the scarcity of rice. Open rebellion is threatened and three hundred soldiers have been sent from Canton and further troops from Chowchowfu.

This affair is probably the origin of a report that was in circulation yesterday to the effect that Chowchowfu had been captured by rebels.

Chowchowfu is an important city near Swatow, and Lienchow is a town in the neighbourhood.

THE PLAGUE.

Last week there were 68 cases of plague and 63 deaths. The daily returns for the present week are as follows:—

	Cases.	Deaths.
June 5	6	6
" 6	2	3
" 7	3	1
" 8	5	3
" 9	2	3

THE TYPE OF STEAMER FOR THE WEST RIVER.

"Light Draught Steamers for River Service, with remarks on types suitable for the West River Trade" is the title of a paper by Mr. J. Dalziel, a member of the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong, which has just been published for the Institution by Kelly and Walsh, Limited. Mr. Dalziel in an introductory section discusses the development of the river steamer and the gradual displacement of the paddle by the twin screw, but states that of late years the paddleboat has had a new lease of life granted it, due to the demand for fast excursion steamers on the Thames and Clyde, and the cross Channel trade in connection with the Railway Companies, and the production of many splendid specimens of naval architecture and marine engineering has been the result. In river cargo boats for draughts of six feet and over, he goes on to say, "it may be considered proved that the twin screw fulfils all the conditions required from a successful propeller; but for draughts of less than six feet some other variety is preferable. Dismissing all devices which may be said to be only in the experimental stage, we have nothing left but to choose between side and stern wheels. Local experience of shallow water navigation being small, we cannot do better than take the benefit of the experience of American engineers gained on the limitless waterways of the Mississippi, Missouri, Hudson, Sacramento and other rivers."

Mr. Dalziel then proceeds to discuss the various types of American river steamers, and, coming to the demand for light draught steamers for the West River, he recommends the adoption of the stern wheel type for the trade above Samshui, twin-screw vessels being used up to that point. A set of outline drawings of a stern wheel steamer accompanies the pamphlet.

In the course of his paper Mr. Dalziel says:—"Our local river steamers are evidently far behind as regards speed. A modern twenty-knot paddle-boat could do the round trip from here to Canton easily in daylight, and burn very little more coal than those at present running the service. The distance is roughly 85 miles. Leaving Hongkong at 8 a.m. they would arrive at Canton at noon; and leaving Canton at 2 p.m. would arrive at Hongkong at 6 p.m. Of course that is taking passengers and their luggage only; but as at present most of the cargo is carried by the night boats (a fact due partly to the Customs' restrictions in Canton, and partly to their lying all day in port), there is seldom any heavy freight goes

by the day boats, this would be no inconvenience. The wonder is that one of our local enterprising steamer companies has not put a fast boat on the run before this." The Steamboat Company may possibly adopt the suggestion when it has the railway to compete against.

THE HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

The following reports on the Hongkong Volunteer Corps are published in the *Gazette*:—
FROM THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING IN CHINA AND HONGKONG TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT, HONGKONG.

Head Quarter Office,
Hongkong, 30th April, 1898.

Sir,—I have the honour to enclose the Commandant's report of the training of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps for the season 1897-98.

2.—I made the annual inspection of the Corps on the 14th instant, when the men turned out well and looked healthy and fit for work; with one exception they performed their drill on the uneven parade ground in a satisfactory manner.

3.—The 7-pr. guns, Maxims, Arms, and equipment appear to be in a serviceable condition, but I understand from the Commandant's report that the carbines are old and worn out. I have already communicated with the Colonial Government on this subject and recommended that the Corps be re-armed with either the 303 Lee-Metford carbine or the Martini-Enfield carbine.

4.—I observe, with great pleasure, that Gun practice with the Field Battery and Maxim Guns has taken place far more frequently than in any former drill season, that the members of both units take great interest in these practices and are shooting better; which is after all the main object of volunteer training.

5.—The annual camp of instruction at Stonecutters' Island was again well attended in October, and the Commandant's report shows that the practical duties of outpost, reconnoitring, field firing, etc., practised there have borne good results, in addition to which the nine days outing is greatly appreciated by all ranks and doubtless helps recruiting and engenders a soldierly spirit.

6.—Several men were absent from the general inspection parade.

7.—I recognize the zeal and energy of Major Sir John Carrington, and am glad to find that he is so well supported by the Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers under his command in all that concerns the welfare of the Corps; in fact, the smallness of numbers is the main fault that can be lodged against the Hongkong Volunteers,—a shortcoming which, I trust, all ranks will do their best to remedy.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

W. BLACK,
Major-General.

FROM THE COMMANDANT, HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS, TO THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL (A) AND CHIEF STAFF OFFICER, CHINA.

Volunteer Head Quarters,
Hongkong, 18th April, 1898.

Sir,—I have the honour to forward herewith the documents mentioned in the margin relating to the training of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps for the season 1897-98 for the information of His Excellency the General Officer Commanding and for favour of transmission to His Excellency the Governor.

ESTABLISHMENT.

2.—A comparison of Enclosure No. 9 with the corresponding document for the training of 1896-97 shows that the total strength of the Corps is now 176 of all ranks as against 159 of all ranks at the former date. This is the greatest strength to which the Corps has yet attained since its re-organization in 1893.

During the season 4 members have died, 1 has been dismissed, 1 has been struck off the strength, and 32 have resigned. Of the resigning members 20 have left the colony, and 3 have been discharged on medical certificate; 55 new members have been enrolled.

The Field Battery now numbers 120, as compared with an establishment of 80 as fixed by the existing regulations of the Corps.

The "A" Machine Gun Company has, I believe for the first time, been recruited up to its full strength, and now numbers 51 of all ranks.

The establishment of the Corps makes provision for three Machine Gun Companies, and the requisite guns for them all are in stock. It was hoped that during the season another company might have been formed, but no steps have been taken in this direction for two reasons; first, because it was thought desirable to await the coming into force of the proposed new regulations, and, secondly, because the local Government has repeatedly and emphatically expressed its desire that no expenditure should take place in excess of the sum voted for the Volunteers.

3.—Some months ago a small Drum and Fife Band, consisting of 22 enrolled members of the Corps and 1 unenrolled boy signaller, was formed, principally through the exertions of Battery Sergeant-Major Duncan and Sergeant-Drummer Hayward. The Band has attained a fair degree of proficiency, and its services are highly appreciated by the members of the Corps.

4.—During the season the question of the formation of a small Engineer Company of the Corps has been under consideration, but a final decision has not yet been reached.

5.—There have been several changes among the Officers of the Corps during the season.

His Excellency Sir W. Robinson, G.C.M.G., Honorary Colonel of the Corps, left the colony and vacated his appointment on the 1st February, 1898.

In the Field Battery Captain J. McCallum, who had been placed on the Supernumerary List, resigned his commission on the 18th January, 1898, on being posted to a Battery of Volunteer Artillery in Scotland. This Officer, whose service dates as far back as May, 1878, has done much good work for the Corps. Lieutenant A. Chapman was promoted Captain to command the Field Battery when Captain McCallum was placed on the Supernumerary List.

On the 28th November, 1897, Lieutenant W. K. Wylie died, under melancholy circumstances, to the great regret of all ranks of the Corps. The vacancy caused by his death was filled on the 3rd February, 1898, by the appointment of Mr. M. W. Slade to be Lieutenant.

Lieutenant H. E. Denson, who was, on the 21st March, 1896, seconded for a period of two years, was struck off the strength of the Corps from the 21st March, 1898, as being absent without leave.

6.—In the "A" Machine Gun Company Sergeant E. D. Sanders was gazetted Captain on the 22nd July, 1897, in succession to Captain C. M. Adamson, resigned, and Sergeant G. C. Fullerton was gazetted Lieutenant on the 30th April, 1897, in succession to Lieutenant A. McP. Marshall, resigned.

DISCIPLINE, TRAINING, AND INSTRUCTION.

7.—The discipline of the Corps has been uniformly good throughout the season.

8.—The usual drills and musketry practices have been well attended. Under this head the figures for the two units are severally as follows:—

Field Battery—

74 have become efficient with more than 40 drills.
21 have become efficient with less than 40 drills.
25 are non-efficients.

120

"A" Machine Gun Company—

26 have become efficient with more than 40 drills.
12 have become efficient with less than 40 drills.
13 are non-efficients.

51

Of the 25 non-efficients in the case of the Field Battery, 2 are absent from the colony on leave, 7 are absent from the colony without leave, 4 are recruits who have not had sufficient time since joining to complete their drills, 4 are on medical certificate, and the remaining 8, although in the colony, have not completed the requisite number of drills.

In the case of the 13 non-efficients of the "A" Machine Gun Company, one is absent from

the colony on leave, 7 are absent from the colony without leave, 2 are recruits who have not had sufficient time since joining to complete their drills, one is on medical certificate, and the remaining 2, although in the colony, have not completed the requisite number of drills.

9.—In October, 1897, a camp of instruction was held under canvas during a period of nine days on Stonecutters' Island. The use of the Naval Range, of the 64-pounder Gun Battery, and of the depressing range finding instruments on the island was kindly lent by the Naval and Military Authorities. The Camp was well attended and may be described as successful in every way. To its success I attribute in great measure the activity in recruiting which prevailed during the latter part of the season. I desire to record my deliberate opinion that the holding of the annual Camp of Instruction is an important factor in the well-being of the Corps, from the point of view of its popularity as well as of its efficiency.

10.—A perusal of enclosures 3 and 4 will show that gun practice has taken place more frequently in the past season than in previous years, and there is no doubt that the members of the two units have in consequence become more efficient in this important branch of their training.

In the various competitions a keen spirit of rivalry has been shown by the several detachments engaged, and the shooting has been for the most part good.

In the 64-pounder gun competition which was held at Stonecutters' Island on the 22nd January, 1898, No. 1 detachment, commanded by Sergeant G. C. Hayward, again secured the first place.

Competitions have also taken place at Repulse Bay for prizes given by the Honourable J. J. Bell Irving, Mr. T. Jackson, and the Commandant. In the case of "A" Machine Gun Company the competition was held by detachments on the 12th March, 1898, and resulted in the victory of No. 4 Detachment, commanded by Sergeant E. C. Shepherd. The Field Battery held their competition by sections on the 16th instant, when No. 1 section, commanded by Lieutenant W. Machell, were the winners.

A report of the 64-pounder gun competition was forwarded to His Excellency the General Officer Commanding on the 31st January, 1898; a brief report on all the gun practices during the season was forwarded on the 15th instant; and that of the 7-pounder and Maxim gun competitions will be forwarded in a few days.

11.—A successful carbine competition in connexion with the Corps was held on the 19th and 26th March, 1898, when a number of prizes were competed for. The members of the Corps are very grateful to the many kind donors of prizes.

12.—Revolver practice by the Officers and Staff Sergeants has been continued during the season, and good shooting has generally been made.

13.—There have been no operations at a distance from Head Quarters for which it was necessary to employ coolie draught.

SERVICES.

14.—Captain L. A. C. Gordou, Royal Artillery, the Adjutant of the Corps, continues to show great interest in the performance of his duties, and in particular the arrangements which he has made and carried out for the several competitions have been satisfactory to all ranks.

During his temporary absence on leave in Japan in 1897, his duties were efficiently performed by Captain A. Chapman.

15.—The other officers of the Corps also continue to render excellent service. By their devotion to duty they set an admirable example to the non-commissioned officers and men under their command, and they avail themselves of every opportunity to promote the efficiency of the Corps. The best relations exist between them and the subordinate ranks.

16.—Corps Quarter-Master-Sergeant G. W. Watling has rendered very efficient service in connexion with the camp of instruction and the several competitions, and in the performance of his duties generally.

17.—There have been several changes among the instructors of the Corps, but I am glad to say that the new as well as the old instructors have proved themselves painstaking and efficient

and have discharged their duties to my entire satisfaction.

18.—The non-commissioned officers and men of the Corps have, with few exceptions, attended drills regularly and shown a praiseworthy desire to make themselves smart and efficient. Their conduct and good feeling in camp and on all other occasions has been exceedingly good. I am especially glad to be able to say that talking in the ranks on parade is much less frequent than it used to be, and I am in hopes that this unsoldierlike practice will soon disappear altogether.

REGULATIONS.

19.—In my last report I held out the promise that the proposed new regulations for the Corps would shortly be drafted and submitted for approval. But I regret to say that the pressure of other duties has prevented me from fulfilling this promise. In am, however, sensible that the matter is one of considerable importance, and I will endeavour to prepare the draft as soon as possible.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

20.—The annual inspection of the Corps by His Excellency the General Officer Commanding took place on the 14th instant. The parade state on that occasion is shown in enclosure No 8.

21.—A course of lectures on ambulance work, accompanied with stretcher drills, has again been held by Surgeon-Lieutenant Stedman. 17 members joined the class, 13 of whom presented themselves at the examination, which was conducted by Surgeon-Captain Clarke, A.M.S. Of the examinees 11 were successful and received certificates of proficiency.

22.—I have to request that the Chief Ordnance Officer, China, may again be asked to keep up the usual quantities of Martini-Henry carbine ball and blank ammunition and of 7-pounder and 64-pounder R.M.L. gun ammunition for the uses of the Corps, to be indented for as required on repayment. I have further to beg that the carbine ammunition may be of the latest date of manufacture.

23.—The local Government was good enough to sanction the expenditure of a special sum of \$650 for the purchase of carbine ammunition for the purpose of enabling members to procure ammunition for practice at a cheaper rate than that which formerly obtained, namely, at the price of \$2.50 per 100 rounds instead of \$4.00 per 100 rounds. The result of this liberal measure has been seen in a considerable improvement in the shooting of the Corps, and a large number of recruits have made good progress with their musketry.

24.—In my last report I drew attention to the service-worn condition of the Martini-Henry carbines belonging to the Corps. During the season these weapons were examined by the Ordnance Department, and, with few exceptions, they were all condemned as unfit for service. The question of re-arming the Corps with a more efficient weapon has been engaging the attention of the Imperial and Local Governments, and I trust the proposals which have been made to that end may soon be carried into effect.

25.—A Committee of Officers has been recently engaged in considering the question of the uniform of the several grades of the Corps with a view to its simplification and cheapening; their recommendations will be embodied in the new draft Regulations.

26.—Requisitions for the capitation grant for Efficients have been sent direct to the Honourable the Colonial Treasurer.

27.—It will, I think, be gathered from the preceding paragraphs of this report and from the enclosures to it that the progress of the Corps during the season has been steady and continuous. It is true that its course is not free from difficulties, but I am satisfied that, with self-denying effort on the part of the members of the Corps and with good-will and interest on the part of the Government, the Legislature, and the general public these difficulties will not prevent the Corps from attaining a high standard of efficiency—a standard which, I feel sure, is the aim of all who are connected with it.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant.

J. W. CARRINGTON, Major,
Commandant, Hongkong Volunteer Corps.

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.

FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.

The first general meeting of shareholders in the China Provident Loan and Mortgage Company, Limited, was held at the Company's Offices, Praya central, on 4th June at noon. The chair was occupied by Mr. R. Shewan, and there were also present Messrs. C. A. Tomes, J. H. Lewis, A. Babington, J. S. Van Buren, G. M. Bain, J. B. Mustard, H. Wicking, G. W. F. Playfair, C. Ewens, Fung Wa Chuen, A. H. Hewitt, F. M. Gutierrez, and F. J. V. Jorge.

Mr. BABINGTON read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen: This meeting has been called in accordance with the Companies' Ordinances, which require that every company registered under those ordinances shall call a meeting within four months from its date of registration. The company was registered on 19th February last, and for the little time it has been at work has, I am glad to say, made good progress and so far answered all the anticipations of its promoters. Our main object is to encourage provident habits among people of moderate means by enabling them, with our assistance, to become owners of the houses they live in. I need not go into the system here, as the pamphlets we are compiling will explain this in detail. It is enough to say that it has been most successful at home. The companies engaged in such business at home have paid good dividends besides having succeeded in giving many persons the satisfaction of living in their own house for little more expenditure than if they had rented the house in the usual way. I do not pretend that the sole object of this company is a philanthropic one. Our aim is to make money for our shareholders like any other business undertaking, but I do claim that this company should prove a boon to people whose means do not permit them to provide the necessary cash all at once for buying a house, but who at the same time are paying their landlord a rent much beyond the true value of the house they occupy and which rent, if utilized in the way we advocate, would soon enable them to own the house itself. Take the case of one of our clients. He was paying rent \$40 per month for the house he lived in. He is now paying us \$62.40 per month but with this difference: that he now owns his house while formerly he might have paid his rent to all eternity and still have had nothing to show for it. As you all know rents have risen and are still rapidly rising in this colony, and for a company like ours carefully conducted there is, we feel, a great future. Our capital is of course far too small for all the business we hope to do, but we preferred to begin in a small way and build up our capital and resources as we go along. It takes time for a company to get in all its capital and to commence active operation, but I am pleased to say that we have been fortunate in both respects. Our capital was quickly subscribed; both calls are now all paid up, and the bulk has already been lent out in various ways. The process of utilising the money in loans to bona-fide investors in real estate is of necessity a slow one, and meanwhile to prevent loss of interest on our capital we have taken advantage of the present tightness of the money market to make short loans on goods in godown, shares, etc., at rates of interest ranging from 8 to 12 per cent. We shall of course always give the preference to our provident loans on house property to be repaid by instalments, which will always make us a sure return; but there is a good trust and loan business, if I may so term it, to be done as well if we had more capital. At present we have placed about \$105,000 in provident loans on the instalment plan and have about \$15,000 more promised, about \$51,000 on mortgage, and about \$326,000 in short loans on goods and stocks. Practically we have invested all our capital, and must now look around for some means of raising more funds. Our credit is good, as our creditors will always have our reserve liability of \$10 per share to fall back on, so if we decide to issue debentures in lieu of increasing our capital there should be no difficulty in obtaining what we want. I need

hardly point out that by issuing debentures at say 6 per cent. and lending the money again at 8 or 10 per cent. there would be a good profit for the company, provided the money could be promptly reinvested, as of course loss of time means loss of interest. So far we have not lost very much time, and we shall endeavour to avoid doing so by borrowing only enough to meet our wants and by promptly investing the money so borrowed. It is only by borrowing and lending in this manner that we can secure large profits for the company, and of course when our business has increased and the demand can no longer be met by borrowing we must have recourse to a further issue of capital. The other night there was a letter in the *China Mail* signed "Hard Pushed" on the dearth of cheap houses for Europeans, and it is just persons in the position of the writer of that letter that this company sympathises with and is anxious to assist. We are not a building company and have no desire or intention to compete with the land companies in this colony, but if such persons as "Hard Pushed" could arrange with those companies to build cheap residences we would be very glad to help them in providing the purchase money. You must not forget, however, that if you have any spare funds for investment we are equally willing to receive it on deposit or in exchange for debentures and notwithstanding the celebrated advice of Polonius we are prepared to "either a lender or borrower be," as it may suit our customers. That I think is all I have to say just now, gentlemen. The company has started well under favourable auspices, and I feel sure will in time, as its object and aims become better known and its business increases, prove a benefit to the colony in general and in particular will offer special inducements to that section of the community whose incomes are restricted, who in face of a steadily falling exchange have had to accept the inevitable and make up their minds to reside permanently in the colony, and on whom a constant rise in rents presses most heavily. Before sitting down I must express the deep feelings of regret of my colleagues and myself at the sudden death of Mr. Hong Hoi Chan, who took a keen interest in the company from its start. (Hear, hear.)

There being no questions

The CHAIRMAN continued—As there seem to be no questions, gentlemen, that is all the business. I thank you for your attendance. The proceedings then terminated.

GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The following report has been received from the manager at the mines:—

Mount Macdonald, 7th May, 1898.

Great Eastern Mine.—After sinking a well, which brought the shaft down to 181 feet, and cutting chamber prior to starting to drive for the reef, we have commenced crosscutting, and are now in 6 feet east, to cut the main reef, and 2 feet west, to cut the reef known as Clarke's, and we hope soon to be able to put good news before you from here.

Zulu Shaft.—We have mastered the water, which was only the result of a floor, so far as to go on sinking, and this shaft is now down to 119 feet. To our great delight we cut a new chute of ore, after breaking through the floor, which follows exactly in the wake of the chute cut at the 70 feet level, and which is undoubtedly the continuation of the northern chutes as explained in the sketch I sent you some time ago. The shoot is to all appearances richer than the one cut at a more shallow depth, for we estimate it to yield quite 3 ounces to the ton, or a very rich chute indeed. We shall know more about it in a few days, when we have got more below it. So far every piece of quartz almost broken from the reef shows gold to the naked eye, but the great importance of this find lies in the fact that it conclusively proves that we have now cut the second make, or that our rich ore lives at greater depth without losing any of its goldbearing qualities; it is also richer in mineral, which bears out the opinion of Mr. Schlapp, the famous expert. After we have reached the depth of 150 feet, which will be end of June, we shall start driving and getting out the ore.

I promptly wired you this good news, and shall telegraph you the width of the new chute, as soon as we know its extent. The prompt securing of the Zulu claim at the time of starting is a proof of our Mine Manager's good judgment, and of his great knowledge of the ground.

Rise and Shine.—We expect to cut the reef hourly, for all the indications are there, and to-morrow I shall probably be able to send you a wire with good news.

Bank of England.—Has turned out a surprisingly good claim. My last report mentioned that the reef seemed to widen out as we were going down, and on the 27 ult. I was able to wire you that the reef was fully 5 feet wide. It has since increased in width and we have now in the shaft a fine solid body of quartz, over 6 feet wide. The foot wall is the richest part of it, of which fully one foot will go from 5 to 6 ounces per ton; also the hanging wall shows gold, and we are certain that the reef taken out from wall to wall will yield at the least one ounce per ton. We have already about 30 tons on grass. The total depth of shaft is 37 feet and 6 inches. This has also been a splendid acquisition.

Calidonian Shaft.—Is down to 140 feet. We had to timber nearly 40 feet, so that not much sinking could be done. The water is receding and the ground favourable for working. We shall reach 150 feet in one fortnight, when we also shall start driving for the reef. As our shaft is vertical and by 30 feet lower down the hill a depth of 150 feet will bring us fully 90 feet under even the deepest old workings and consequently give us plenty of backs.

Dam.—This is progressing as fast as circumstances permit and will be a very large one when finished.

Messrs. Lutgens, Einmann & Co., General Agents of the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Limited, have received the following telegram from the manager at the mines:—"We have struck the main reef Great Eastern shaft."

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

SCOTLAND V. THE WORLD.

This annual competition brought out twelve couples and was concluded on 3rd inst., resulting in a win for Scotland by 9 holes. Players started on level terms, the issue being for "honour and glory," and irrespective of handicap allowances. Last year's Captain of the Club did good service for his side, fairly laying out his opponent, whereas the 1897 champion placed a very small margin to the credit of the same side. The play in a good many instances was very close, as will be gathered from the subjoined details:—

SCOTLAND.		THE WORLD	
	holes.		holes.
Dr. J. A. Lowson	0	Mr C. W. May	1
Mr G. Stewart	11	Lieut. Des Vaux, R.E.	0
Mr. A. S. Anton	1	Capt R.M. Rumsey, R.N.	0
Capt. Montgomerie, R.N.	1	Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins	0
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	1	Rev. G. R. Vallings	0
Mr. J. Thurburn	1	Mr. C. A. Tomes	0
Mr. M. Stewart	0	Mr. C. H. Grace	0
Mr. G. W. F. Playfair	0	Mr. H. Pinckney	5
Mr. A. J. McClure	0	Mr. P. de C. Morris	8
Mr. W. Taylor	3	Mr. G. Millward	0
Mr. E. F. Mackay	6	Mr. W. J. Saunders	0
Mr. R. McK. Ross	0	Com. Taylor, R.N.	1
	24		15

PROFESSION PAIRS TOURNAMENT.

This contest will be entered on at an early date, and it is hoped the entries will be numerous. A list is laid on the table at the Club house for the enrolment of competitor's names. Entries close on Wednesday, the 8th inst., when the ties will be drawn.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR JUNE.

A large number of players turned up on the links during the days devoted to this competition, and resulted in good scores taking the Cup and the Pool. The remainder of the returns were rather poor, but the very oppressive heat on two days may in a measure account for this:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.			
Mr. P. de C. Morris	92	10	82
Mr. G. Stewart	90	3	87
Mr. E. F. Mackay	103	15	88
Mr. H. Pinckney	97	8	89
Mr. E. R. Morris	100	10	90

Mr. C. A. Tomes	98	8	90
Mr. W. A. L. Lethbridge	107	15	92
Mr. G. W. F. Playfair	112	18	94
Capt. Hibbert, K.O.R.	110	14	96
27 entries.			

POOL.

Mr. M. Stewart	93	11	82
Mr. P. de C. Morris	96	10	86
Capt. Montgomerie, R.N.	97	8	89
Mr. G. Stewart	92	3	89
Mr. C. A. Tomes	98	8	90
Mr. E. R. Morris	104	10	94
12 entries.			

THE HOISTING OF THE BRITISH FLAG AT WEIHAWEI.

Island of Liukungton, 24th May.

On Sunday last the *Alacrity*, arrived, having on board Consul Hopkins of Chefoo.

At 9 a.m. yesterday a detachment of blue-jackets (45 in all), in command of Lieut. F. A. Gaunt, were landed from the *Narcissus*, and these having been duly installed in the temporary barracks, the Marines, in charge of Capt. Mureer, went off to the mainland, where the few remaining Japanese soldiers were rapidly embarking on board the transports.

Before leaving, the Chinese authorities entertained the Japanese at a grand banquet. Hanging round the banquet hall I noticed the flags of all nations except the British! Some of the Chinese facetiously remarked that they were giving the Japanese a little food before kicking them out. When the feast was over the Japanese General went on board his vessel, which at once got under way and steamed slowly out of the harbour, being saluted by the two Chinese men-of-war in harbour, and as she neared the *Narcissus* this vessel also saluted and their band played the Japanese National Anthem, and thus the occupation of Weihaiwei by the Japanese was brought to a close.

At noon yesterday, the Chinese flag was hoisted and saluted for the first time since we have been in possession, but "brief life is here its portion," for to-morrow it will be hauled down for the last time until our lease is up!

A few enterprising foreigners (not English) had opened some public houses on the island without permission, and yesterday Lieut. Gaunt with a guard marched round and peremptorily closed these establishments up, and later on I saw the late proprietors leaving the island sadder, if not wiser men. Also all the Chinese stores were given 24 hours' notice to remove all their wines, spirits, etc. These people also are sad at heart, for they had counted upon a grand harvest, being first in the field.

And now let me tell you about the great event of to-day,

THE HOISTING OF THE UNION JACK AT WEIHAWEI ON H.B.M.'S BIRTHDAY.

Early this morning a jack-tar accompanied by a Chinese interpreter, and the indispensable gong, went round the island informing the people generally that at half-past one to-day the English flag would be hoisted on the island, and that those who wished could come and witness the ceremony.

Your correspondent was on the wharf early, and at 1 p.m. two companies of sailors (100 men), in charge of Commander Napier, were landed from the *Narcissus*, and shortly after these came 50 Chinese sailors from H.I.C.M.S. *Foochi*. The whole being headed by the band from the *Narcissus*. They were then marched, to the strains of "A Life on the Ocean Wave," up to the West Fort, where two temporary flagstaves had been erected, upon one of which already floated the Dragon flag.

Here the men were drawn upon in a square facing the flag staffs, between which was placed the band, and then awaited the arrival of the Commissioners.

There was about five minutes delay (fully occupied by many in taking snap shots) and then the Commissioners, consisting of

Consul Hopkins ... Chefoo.
Capt. Kinghall ... *Narcissus*.
Taotai Yen, and Capt. Lien ... *Foochi*.

marched into the centre of the square, when Capt. Kinghall addressed the company in a few words, expressing his great pleasure at having the company of H.E. the Taotai to witness this free action between two friendly nations, and

before taking the lease of Weihaiwei would read the following:—

We the undersigned Commissioners, appointed by Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Hobart Seymour, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of the China Station, do hereby take on lease on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India, from the commissioners appointed by the Tsungli Yamén on behalf of his Majesty, the Emperor of China, the Island of Liukungtau, the town of Weihaiwei, and the mainland in the neighbourhood to the extent and on the terms which have been agreed upon by our respective Governments.

Given under our hands on board H.M.S. *Narcissus* at Weihaiwei this twenty-fourth day of May one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight.

(Here follow the signatures of the four Commissioners.)

DECLARATION.

Great Britain having leased Weihaiwei, with the consent of China, every one is enjoined to carry on their occupations quietly and peaceably as heretofore, and to observe the law.

Disturbance of the peace will be punished.

The principal inhabitants of Liukungtau will be held responsible that from this date no new inhabitant is allowed on the island or permitted to rent any building or place, or reside in the village, without first obtaining the permission of the officer in command.

(Signed) G. KINGHALL,

Capt. R.N.

The Taotai then said a few words in a very low and nervous manner, your correspondent not being able to catch one word of what he said.

Commaner Napier now gave the order to hoist the flag, and, to the familiar strains of "God save the Queen" the Union Jack of old England was slowly hoisted up and was saluted by all. *Eato perpetua*.

Commander Napier now ordered "three cheers for the Queen," which were given heartily, and one cheer for the Emperor of China! Alas! poor Emperor, they are even denying him his quota of cheers.

The men were now granted leave to roam over the island till six o'clock, the officers and your correspondent retiring to head-quarters, where we drank success to our new acquisition, and thus ended the day's proceedings.

The Yeoman of Signals, Mr. Harris of the *Narcissus*, was the man who had the honour of first hoisting the Union Jack on the island of Liukungtau. The flag was also hoisted at the same time on the mainland, but without any ceremony.—*Mercury* correspondent.

THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN GERMANY AND CHINA.

We (*China Gazette*) have obtained from Peking the following translation of the Official Memorandum of the Tsungli-yamen with reference to the settlement of the German claims in Shantung:—

An amicable arrangement of the missionary troubles at Tsaichow-fu, Shantung, having been arrived at by Germany and China, the two Powers immediately interested, China makes the following concessions as a mark of friendly feeling towards Germany, in the hope that the good relations existing between the two countries may always continue; that they may become more intimate; and that their mutual commerce may expand and prosper to their mutual advantage. The first concession is the leasing of Kyaochoo and adjacent territories to Germany, to which the following conditions appertain:—

I.—His Majesty the Emperor of China, being desirous of preserving the existing good relations with His Majesty the Emperor of Germany, and of promoting an increase of German power and influence in the Far East, sanctions the acquirement under lease, by Germany of the land extending for 100 li, at high tide (at Kyaochoo).

His Majesty the Emperor of China is willing that German troops should take possession of the above-mentioned territory at any time the Emperor of Germany chooses. China refrains her sovereignty over this territory, and should she at any time wish to enact laws or carry out

plans within the leased area, she shall be at liberty to enter into negotiations with Germany with reference thereto; provided always that such laws or plans shall not be prejudicial to German interests. Germany may engage in works for the public benefit, such as water-works, within the territory covered by the lease, without reference to China. Should China wish to march troops or establish garrisons therein she can only do so after negotiating with and obtaining the express permission of Germany.

II.—His Majesty the Emperor of Germany, being desirous like the rulers of certain other countries, of establishing a naval and coaling station and constructing dockyards on the coast of China, the Emperor of China agrees to lease to him for the purpose all the land on the southern and northern sides of Kyaochoo Bay for a term of ninety-nine years. Germany is to be at liberty to erect forts on this land for the defence of her possessions therein.

III.—During the continuance of the lease China shall have no voice in the government or administration of the leased territory. It will be governed and administered during the whole term of ninety-nine years solely by Germany, so that the possibility of friction between the two Powers may be reduced to the smallest magnitude. The lease covers the following districts:—

(a.)—All the land in the north-east of Lien-han, adjacent to the north-eastern mouth of the Bay, within a straight line drawn from the north-eastern corner of Yintao to Laoshan-wan.

(b.)—All the land in the south-west of Lien-han, adjacent to the southern mouth of the Bay, within a straight line drawn from a point on the shore of the Bay bearing south-west by south from Tsi-pe-shan-to.

(c.)—Tsi-pe-shan and Yintao.

(d.)—The whole area of the Bay of Kyaochoo covered at high-water.

(e.)—Certain islands at the entrance of the Bay which are ceded for the purpose of erecting forts for the defence of the German possessions.

The boundaries of the leased territory shall hereafter be more exactly defined by a commission appointed jointly by the Chinese and German Governments, and consisting of Chinese and German subjects. Chinese ships of war and merchant-ships, and ships of war and merchant-ships of countries having treaties and in a state of amity with China shall receive equal treatment with German ships of war and merchant ships in Kyaochoo Bay during the continuance of the lease. Germany is at liberty to enact any regulations she desires for the government of the territory and harbour, provided such regulations apply impartially to the ships of all nations, Germany and China included.

IV. Germany shall be at liberty to erect whatever lighthouse, beacons and other aids to navigation she chooses within the territory leased, and along the islands and coasts approaching the entrance to the harbour. Vessels of China and vessels of other countries entering the harbour shall be liable to special duties for the repair and maintenance of all light-houses, beacons and other aids to navigation which Germany may erect and establish. Chinese vessels shall be exempt from other special duties.

V.—Should Germany desire to give up her interest in the leased territory before the expiration of ninety-nine years, China shall take over the whole area, and pay Germany for whatever German property may at the times of surrender be there situated. In cases of such surrender taking place Germany shall be at liberty to lease some other point along the coast. Germany shall not cede the territory leased to any other Power than China. Chinese subjects shall be allowed to live in the territory leased, under the protection of the German authorities and there carry on their avocations and business as long as they conduct themselves as peaceable and law-abiding citizens. Germany shall pay a reasonable price to the native proprietors for whatever lands her Government or subjects require. Fugitive Chinese criminals taking refuge in the leased territory shall be arrested and surrendered to the Chinese authorities for trial and punishment, upon application to the German authorities, but the Chinese authorities shall not be at liberty to send agents into the leased territory to make arrests. The German

authorities shall not interfere with the *likin* stations outside but adjacent to the territory.

The second important concession by China to Germany is

THE RAILWAY AND MINING CONCESSION the principal provisions of which are as follows:

I.—The Chinese Government sanctions the construction by Germany of two lines of railway in Shantung. The first will run from Kyaochoo and Tsinan-fu to the boundary of Shantung province via Wei-hsien, Tsinchow, Pashan, Tsechuen and Suiping. The second line will connect Kyaochoo with Chinchow, whence an extension will be constructed to Tsinan through Laiwu-hsien. The construction of this extension shall not be begun until the first part of the line, the main line, is completed, in order to give the Chinese an opportunity of connecting this line in the most advantageous manner with their own railway system. What places the line from Tsinan-fu to the provincial boundary shall take in *en route* is to be determined hereafter.

II.—In order to carry out the above mentioned railway work a Sino-German company shall be formed, with branches at whatever places may be necessary, and in this Company both Germany and Chinese subjects shall be at liberty to invest money if they so choose, and appoint directors for the management of the undertaking.

III.—All arrangements in connection with the works specified shall be determined by a future conference of German and Chinese representatives. The Chinese Government shall afford every facility and protection and extend every welcome to representatives of the German Railway Company operating in Chinese territory. Profits derived from the working of these railways shall be justly divided *pro rata* between the shareholders without regard to nationality. The object of constructing these lines is solely the development of commerce. In inaugurating a railway system in Shantung Germany entertains no treacherous intention towards China, and undertakes not to unlawfully seize any land in the province.

IV.—The Chinese Government shall allow German subjects to hold and develop mining property for a distance of 30 li from each side of these railways and along the whole extent of the lines. The following places where mining operations may be carried on are particularly specified along the northern railway from Kyaochoo to Tsinan, Weihsien, Pa-shan-hsien and various other points; and along the Southern Kyaochoo-Tsinan-Chinchow line, Chinchow-fu, Luwuhhsien, etc. Chinese capital may be invested in these operations and arrangements for carrying on the work shall hereafter be made by a joint conference of Chinese and German representatives. All German subjects engaged in such works in Chinese territory shall be properly protected and welcomed by the Chinese authorities and all profits derived shall be fairly divided between Chinese and German shareholders according to the extent of the interest they hold in the undertakings. In trying to develop mining property in China, Germany is actuated by no treacherous motives against this country, but seeks alone to increase commerce and improve the relations between the two countries.

OTHER CONCESSIONS TO GERMANY.

If at any time the Chinese should form schemes for the development of Shantung for the execution of which it is necessary to obtain foreign capital, the Chinese Government, or whatever Chinese may be interested in such schemes, shall, in the first instance, apply to Germany capitalists. Application shall also be made to German manufacturers for the necessary machinery and materials before the manufacturers of any other Power are approached. Should German capitalists or manufacturers decline to take up the business the Chinese shall then be at liberty to obtain money and materials from sources of other nationality than German.

This Convention requires the sanction of His Majesty the Emperor of China and His Majesty the Emperor of Germany. When the sanction of His Majesty the Emperor of China reaches Berlin the agreement approved by His Majesty the Emperor of Germany shall be handed to the Chinese Ambassador. When the final draft is agreed to by both parties four

clean copies of it shall be made, two in Chinese and two in German, which shall be duly signed by the Chinese and German Minister at Berlin and Peking. Each Power shall retain one Chinese copy and one German copy, and the agreement shall be faithfully observed on either side.

Dated, the 14th day of the second moon of the 24th year of Kuang Hsu. (March 6th, 1898).

H.R.H. PRINCE HENRY IN PEKING.

Preparations have been going on in Peking for some weeks past for the royal reception of Prince Henry of Prussia and especially in the German embassy, which the Baroness von Heyking had arranged for the occasion in a princely manner.

Baron von Heyking left Peking to set out on the 13th inst. from Tak on board the Chinese man-of-war *Chenhai* to meet the *Deutschland* and receive the Prince. Upon landing at Taku, the forts, which had hoisted the German flag, thundered forth a salute, in which shared a Japanese gunboat and the British dispatch-boat, the *Alacrity*. The Viceroy of Chihli, H.E. Wang Wen-shao, boarded the *Chenhai*, as she reached the landing stage, to welcome the Prince, who then set out for Peking in the special train built for the Dowager-Empress, and reached Machiapu, the Peking terminus, at 3 p.m. Here Prince Henry was received by H.E. Prince Ching and the members of the Tsungli Yamén, as well as by the German Legation. Thence the Prince was carried into Peking in a special Imperial chair. On either side marched a detachment of German marines, under Lieutenant Robert, with a martial bearing that impressed not only the Chinese but the assembled Europeans, as a salutation from our national Fatherland. At the embassy, the Chinese had erected two tents for a guard of honour during the Prince's stay. Immediately after his entry presentations took place of Chinese high officials, of the diplomatic corps, and of the Germans resident in Peking. In the evening a dinner, with twenty-four covers, was given by the Ambassador.

On the 14th of May the Prince assisted at the races and presented the German cup to the fortunate winner, Mr. Gwynne, Reuter's Agent. After this lunch was served in the Grand Stand, which was dressed with German colours. In the evening the whole diplomatic corps was invited to dine with the Prince at the embassy, when the band of the *Deutschland* played in such style as to touch the feelings not only of the Germans present but equally those of other nationalities.

On the following morning His Highness displayed his vigour by rising at 6 o'clock in order to interview the Emperor of China at 7 precisely, in his palace of Wan-Chu-Shan. The Prince rode thither on horseback and dismounted at Niang-niang temple close by, where, with his suite, he donned his gala uniform. Thence the party were carried in sedan-chairs to the charming summer palace of the Chinese Emperor, the Wan-Chu-Shan, never before profaned by European foot. After the opening of the purple doors of the palace, the Prince and his attendant suite of military and civilians were conducted into a pavilion known as the Yü-Lan-Tien, where a Chinese *déjeuner* was laid out. Hence accompanied by the I.G. Minister, his Adjutant Commander Müller, and the Chief Secretary and Interpreter of the I.G. embassy, Freiherr von der Goltz, the Prince proceeded to visit the Dowager Empress.

The Empress received the Prince in a hall adorned with every possible decoration of Chinese art, and an avenue of old *cloisonné* led to the yellow-carpeted throne upon which the Dowager Empress was seated. Her Majesty, on whom no European eye had ever gazed until this day, carried on a lively conversation with the Prince through the intermediary of Herr von der Goltz; and we are informed that this was not a mere interchange of compliments but that, among others, the question of the reception by the Empress, on a future occasion, of the ladies of the diplomatic corps was discussed. We are told too that the Empress, whose Manchu head-dress was covered with magnificent jewels, displayed an intelligence and energy of character which greatly impressed

those who now saw her for the first time. At the close of the interview Her Majesty distributed "orders" adorned with precious stones and other presents,—amongst them fans and pictures painted by her own hand.

After this the Emperor himself was visited by the Prince, accompanied by his full suite and the members of the legation. The Prince handed over the presents sent by his brother, the German Emperor, and which consisted of wonderful specimens of the Berlin porcelain works,—vases of the much valued *Sang de bœuf* on bronze stands. The Prince sat in the seat of honour beside the Emperor, who expressed his satisfaction by repeated handshakes.

Immediately, as soon as the Prince had returned to his own pavilion, the Emperor replied to the visit by visiting the Prince, going on foot from one pavilion to the other. The Prince then conducted the Emperor into a small aside-room, where he had a long private conversation with him, the only third person present being the German interpreter, Herr von der Goltz. Upon the Emperor leaving the pavilion, the German detachment of marines presented arms and sounded the drums. This is the first time that German, or indeed any European troops, have presented arms to a Chinese Emperor.

At the close of these formal ceremonies, the Empress invited the Prince to inspect the beautiful gardens and plantations of the Wan-Chu-Shan. Thereupon His Highness and suite entered a small steam launch and were conducted to the different pavilion bordering the lake, all filled with choice works of art; among them, the painted studies of the Dowager Empress specially attracted the Prince's attention.

Then followed a banquet at the Prince of Ching's, which did great honour to His Excellency's *chef de cuisine*. Prince Ching toasted Prince Henry and expressed the warm admiration and friendly feelings entertained by the Emperor of China for the Emperor of Germany, to which the Prince responded in similar terms.

On the evening of this ever-to-be-remembered day, a dinner in honour of the Prince was given in the British Legation. Naturally the conversation at this dinner turned chiefly on the event of that morning and the new era now opened up in the intercourse of China with European Powers. It was such a triumph of German diplomacy as the oldest experts had not deemed possible. Congratulations were showered upon His Royal Highness from all sides.

This historical event is a testimony to the able work of German diplomacy, as well as to the fascination of Prince Henry's presence, such as cannot but inspire all Germans with a feeling of exaltation and thankfulness.—Condensed from the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* by N. C. Daily News.

THE FRENCH AT KWANG-CHAUWAN.

REPORTED INSULT TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL AND ADMIRAL.

From an article in the *Avenir du Tonkin* we learn that the Governor-General of French Indo-China has recently paid a visit to Kwang-chauwan, the new French port in Kwangtung. "No doubt he wished," says our contemporary, "to prove, in concert with Admiral de Beaumont, the possibility or impossibility of negotiating the channel with the *Vauban*. On this point a prudent silence is preserved, and as it is to be supposed that this negotiation of the channel would have been much spoken of had it succeeded we must conclude that it was not realised. On the other hand certain facts which have been carefully concealed are now leaking out. The reception the Governor and Admiral met with was most singular. The Chinese authorities simply abstained from all communication with the Western barbarians. It was in vain that one tried to notify them of our arrival; no one could be found, for the numerous administrative functions of the Chinese mandarins had called them away to a distance. Consequently there were no official communications, and full licence was enjoyed by a crowd of people, who acted with the more boldness inasmuch as no responsibility rested upon them. Not only was the party that landed officially ignored, but from a respectful distance our sailors were insulted in the

Chinese language, and it is even said that as the boat put off from the shore to return to the ship stones were thrown by way of adieu."

Our contemporary goes on to argue that French diplomacy has been all wrong, that the whole of the south coast from Moncay to Kwangchauwan should have been occupied, and it urges now a firm attitude. In the course of its remarks the *Avenir* states that the Chinese of Kwangtung have been incited against the French "by the emissaries that our good friends the English have sent into the province" and that "an armed occupation has been rendered necessary by the bad faith of the local mandarins influenced by the English agents."

SHANGHAI AND THE MAIL SERVICE.

The following letter has been addressed by the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce to the Chairman of the P. & O. Company:—

Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce,
16th May, 1898.

Sir,—This Chamber addressed the General Post Office, London, in January last, urging that it would be a very great convenience to the mercantile community of this port if the mail steamers were not despatched before noon on Tuesday, as work here on Sundays would thereby be to some extent avoided, but I regret to say that a reply has been received to the effect that "according to the statement of the contractors, the later departure of the mail steamers from Shanghai, which would be necessary, would involve a Sunday departure from Hongkong and other disturbance of the whole Eastern and Australian services," and therefore the desired alteration in departure from Shanghai cannot be made.

The Chamber fail to see the necessity for a lengthened stay of the mail steamers at Hongkong, as is at present the case, for strictly mail purposes, such stay, it appears, being for purposes of transshipment, a system which, if adhered to, should be accelerated so as to avoid what is, from the point of view of a mail contract, purposeless detention in Hongkong or an unnecessary early departure from Shanghai.

Under the present arrangement a P. & O. steamer leaving Woosung on Monday night or early on Tuesday morning, and due in Hongkong on Friday at noon (which would be 24 hours before time of departure from Hongkong) has over 80 hours for the passage to Hongkong which is frequently done by other steamers in about 50 hours! The inconvenience caused to the mercantile community here, from whom your Company has derived liberal and continuous support, is one that is keenly felt, and which the Chamber ventures to think can at least be partially removed without detriment to your service, so that the Chamber trusts you may still see your way to arrange for the deferment of the departure of your mail steamer until Tuesday afternoon, which, allowing for arrival at Hongkong, will still give you nearly 70 hours for the passage and a stay of 24 hours in Hongkong.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

E. F. ALFORD,

Chairman,

The Chairman, P. & O. S. N. Co., London.

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

NEW TOWN FOUNDED.

The town of Gaya on an island of that name, in Gaya Bay (British North Borneo), has been destroyed by fire. The result has been its substitution by a new township on the mainland to the south of the Kabaluan river which falls into Gaya Bay. On the 8th instant, Mr. Cowie formally founded the township. It is hoped that the town will soon become an important railway centre, and commercial emporium. In Mr. Cowie's opinion, island settlements off the coast there are a mistake. The extra expenditure of time and labour entailed in transshipping goods such as timber, etc., from the mainland, to island ports of serious commercial importance. At the new town, which is to bear the name of Gantian, a short wharf is to be built immediately, along side of which very large steamers will be able to lie in four fathoms of water at any state of the tide.—*Straits Times*.

PRINCE HENRY AT WEIHAWEI.

Shanghai, 1st June.

Reuter's agent has kindly informed us that Prince Henry of Prussia arrived at Weihaiwei on board the *Deutschland* on Monday; after saluting the British flag, he exchanged visits with Admiral Seymour, and walked over the island of Linkungtau. Everything went off smoothly. The British are busy giving names to the streets and the roads, and attending to sanitary measures. The pier is in fair order and vessels can load alongside it. A cable is being laid between the island and the mainland. Several indications point to the fact that it is likely that a number of Chinese merchants may establish themselves at Weihaiwei.—*Mercury*.

THE RIOTING AT WENCHOW.

A letter from Ningpo, dated the 28th May, says:—

Last night the Protestant Missionaries gave a return dinner to the Taotai, prefect, and district magistrate. They were very much excited over further news which they had just received from Wenchow.

There had been further trouble, and the native officials, taking a firmer attitude, had used the soldiers at their disposal, with the result that two persons were shot dead. This has complicated affairs; but the Wenchow officials were trying to appease the relatives of the two men by a money compensation of three thousand dollars. That the position of affairs in Wenchow was grave was evident from the conversation and demeanour of the officials here; and we shall look with eagerness for news per *Poochi* on Monday next.

The mandarins in Ningpo are apprehensive of the troubles in other places tending to incite the people here. One good move has been made in the East Suburb—Kiangtung—where rice is being sold at the rate of 36 cash per *sheng*, each family being allowed to purchase five *sheng* per day at this rate.

To-day, the officials are consulting on measures which would tend to mollify the people, and put off any trouble until the first crop is garnered.

P.S.—Proclamations are out telling the people that for the time being the House-tax will not be collected; there is furthermore a rumour that the new opium tax will also be suspended for the time being.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Wenchow, 29th May.

We had hoped the rioting was over on Thursday (19th), but a stupid notification was put out that rice would be sold last Sunday (22nd) to the extent of a dollar's worth each purchaser, at the house of a certain wealthy man. The *Chentai* (Brigadier-General) had arranged to superintend the distribution, but to his discomposure some thousands of applicants turned up, by six in the morning. Sansculottism was in excellent spirits, and would enjoy either plenty of rice or the equivalent in breakages. The *Chentai* soon found the post a laborious one, the distribution of tickets and reception of dollars went on merrily for an hour or so, when some who evidently thought their turn would never come began to grow assertive.

Brickbats and howls assailed the heaven, the *Chentai*, and the house of the rice-owner. Very soon the *Chentai* deemed it necessary to go to the protection of his own *yamen* close by. The crowd grew decidedly obstreperous, and not content with howling began to wreck the house and property of the rice-owner, who had verily found the *Chentai* guilty of Mandarin faith, when they commenced an attack on the General's *yamen* itself. This was speedily closed, and a guard mounted. In response to several blank musket charges the crowd raised terrific yells, but seeing no one was hurt they proceeded with their attack. On this ball charges were inserted, and at the command of the *Chentai* a volley was fired which had the desired effect, the "trouserless" and otherwise found the bullets hot and confined their howls to a respectful distance. Nevertheless the rice-owner's place was completely gutted, and the grain was being looted hours afterwards, without any attempt at protection.

When the firing began in earnest and news reached the foreigners in the city it was once more deemed wise to transport as many

ladies as were willing to go to the Island and there they remained till things were quieter. Mr. Ayrton, H.B.M.'s Consul, and the staff residing there of the I. M. Customs gave kindly shelter to the refugees. Three of the Chinese wounded (bullet through left upper arm in each case) are receiving treatment by Mr. Stobie at the Mission Hospital.

The Pingyang Magistrate's *yamen* has since been attacked; two Likin places there have also been wrecked. Rice is still only obtainable with difficulty and it is nearly two months from the first crop. What the next two months will bring forth we leave events to prove.—*N. C. Daily News* correspondent.

FIRE AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, 31st March.

A serious fire occurred on the premises of the Tah Teh oil mill, near the Camp, on Sunday night. The fire was first discovered in a large godown at about 9.30 p.m., and prompt measures were at once taken by the mill staff to cope with the outbreak, but in consequence of the inflammable nature of the contents of the building their efforts could only prevent the fire spreading to the adjoining premises. The flames continued to burn with great fury until an early hour in the morning, and yesterday afternoon it was necessary to keep three streams playing on the still burning building. The fire being outside the settlement limits, the alarm was not rung, and the Fire Brigade therefore did not attend. A large godown, measuring about 200 feet by 100 feet, used for the storage of bean-cake, cottonseed, and ground nuts, was completely gutted, but fortunately none of the surrounding buildings were involved. No cause is at present assigned for the outbreak. The Hongkong Fire Insurance Company had a line of Tls. 3,200 on the building, and the contents are said to have been covered by a policy for Tls. 10,000 in the Phoenix, all of which is a total loss.—*N. C. Daily News*.

SIAM TRADE.**STEADY INCREASE.**

The Siamese Customs trade returns at Bangkok, for last year, have been published. The *Bangkok Times* finds that the returns show how steady has been the growth of trade there.

EXPORTS.

There was an advance of \$5,000,000 in the exports in 1896, and last year the exports mounted from \$30,362,912 to \$32,032,390. Singapore took a couple of million dollars worth more goods from the port, but the most marked change in the destination of the products of the country was the drop of \$4,000,000 in the exports to Hongkong. Direct shipments, in fact, increased very materially in 1897, there being an increase of \$1,700,000 in the exports to Europe, and of \$2,100,000 in those to places included under "other countries." The two ports, exports to which show a steady decline, are Bombay and Saigon. One healthy sign is a considerable increase in the quantity of rice exported. In value, rice and broken rice together show an increase of \$2,240,000 over 1896, and this was not effected merely by a change in the price as has happened before, for the quantity exported was greater by 1,706,000 piculs. The value of the teak exported was \$2,647,678 in 1896, and \$2,840,124 in 1897. There has, however, been a considerable falling off in butt-ends, boards, staves, log-ends, shingles and scantling, which only go to Singapore and Hongkong; teak timber and teak planks have increased from \$1,574,072 to \$1,960,848. There is a big increase in the direct export of teak to Europe. The effect of the rinderpest is shown in the greatly decreased returns for the bullock trade. In 1896 there were 26,033 bullocks exported, valued at \$460,294; in 1897 only 1,832 bullocks were sent to Singapore, valued at \$44,192.

IMPORTS.

She imports for 1897 amounted to \$24,858,071, as compared with \$21,044,328 for 1896, and show the comfortable margin of \$7,174,319 on the right side when compared with the exports. Singapore sent nearly three million dollars' worth of goods more than in 1896, and Hongkong also shows an increase of some \$500,000

as regards imports. Practically, there is little change in the value of nature of the general imports, the increase being really due to the much larger amount of treasure imported. This item alone accounts for \$3,201,000 of the total increase of \$3,813,000. Iron and hardware show an increase, but steel and machinery were both on the downward grade. Kerosine oil increased from \$548,657 to \$754,375. Opium shows decreased value.

SHIPPING.

The returns of the shipping entered and cleared at Bangkok show that last year 523 vessels entered and 521 cleared, as compared with 468 entered, and 475 cleared in 1896. The tonnage of the vessels cleared last year was 463,254; in 1896 the tonnage cleared was 410,216. The old supremacy of Britain in the trade of Siam is as clear as ever from these figures. Of the \$32,032,390 worth of goods exported \$21,913,615 worth was carried in British bottoms.

There were 386 British vessels with a tonnage of 358,452 cleared; and 135 of other nationalities with a tonnage of 104,802.

THE QUARANTINING OF THE "PERU."

Kobe, 28th May.

The P.M. *Peru* arrived off Wada yesterday morning at an early hour, and the quarantine officials were soon on board pursuing their usual investigation. A patient was discovered in a Chinaman on board and a protracted discussion ensued. One party stood out that it was a case of small-pox, the other insisted that here was an instance of bubonic plague. Dr. Moore Graham, we understand, gave an unhesitating decision in favour of the latter dreaded disease. The news was reported here by the *Java*, but was not confirmed up to tiffin-time. It was then announced that the *Peru* would be despatched for Yokohama at four o'clock without communication with the shore, leaving it to the Quarantine Doctors at Nagahama (outside Yokohama) to determine the steamer's fate. A little later, however, official notice was circulated that the *Peru* is detained in quarantine here, and that her departure for Yokohama, Honolulu, and San Francisco is consequently postponed till June 3rd. Our sympathies are heartily with Captain Saunders and his officers in their misfortune. The unfortunate Chinaman died last night, the evidences of plague being unmistakable. The whole of the ship's company and passengers are to be landed at the quarantine station to-day to undergo the horrible operation of disinfecting, and at the same time the steamer is to be thoroughly fumigated. Now that the plague-stricken man is dead the period of detention may possibly be shortened if no other case supervenes, and the steamer allowed to proceed to Yokohama completing the full quarantine period from Nagasaki on her arrival there.—*Hio-go News*.

THE "ETERNAL GRATITUDE" OF THE UNITED STATES.**A PIECE OF ANCIENT HISTORY.**

We translate the following from the *Independence Tonkinoise*:—

It is, to say the least, curious to recall that the United States of America when struggling for their independence received on several occasions important assistance in men and money from Charles III. of Spain. It was from Cuba itself that the convoys of Spanish volunteers for the reinforcement of the American troops set out. When the American embassy with Franklin at its head arrived at Paris in 1776, it solicited permission to repair to Madrid to request the assistance and protection of Spain. Two members of the embassy, Messrs. Arthur and Charles Lee, were allowed to present themselves at court, where the king received them most amiably, promised them his support, and allowed them to instal permanently in Madrid a representative of the American Congress, Mr. John Jay, who succeeded in obtaining considerable assistance from the Minister, Count de Florida-Blanca. The Americans at that time were warm in their protestations of remembrance, and some years later, in a message

to King Charles asking him to accept another bill of £100,000 sterling, the American Congress gave the King the assurance that "the gratitude of the American people to His Catholic Majesty and the generous Spanish nation would be eternal."

It is no doubt in the name of this eternal gratitude that the United States to-day seek to despoil Spain of the island of Cuba, from which were despatched the relieving expeditions destined to assure their independence.

It is right to recognise, however, that all the Spaniards of the last century were not so confident as King Charles III. and his Minister, Count de Floridablanca. Thus Count d'Aranda, ambassador of His Catholic Majesty at Paris, wrote to his official chief with reference to the United States of America as follows:—

"This Republic was born a dwarf and required for the achievement of its independence the support of two such powerful nations as France and Spain. Some day, however, it will become a giant; then it will forget the benefits received from these powers and think only of its own aggrandisement."

This prophecy of a diplomatist may be recommended to the meditations of ancient Europe.

COLLAPSE OF THE PATRIOTIC LEAGUE.

A Peking correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—

The new patriotic club of which I wrote you has come to an untimely end. It has evaporated like rain drops from our summer clouds, leaving nothing but an ugly blot to remind us of its existence.

It was founded on a lie; and though it enrolled some respectable names its animus was from the first anti-foreign.

To one who read the documents, and talked with its members there was no mistaking its spirit, but the alleged fact to which it appealed as a spur to the movement was not to be divined, without evidence. That evidence is now in hand.

The Emperor having ordered an inquiry the Governor of Shantung replied that on careful examination he found no truth in the report of a sacrilegious mutilation of images. The soldiers he said had not even gone into the part of the temple which contained the images.

A Shantung missionary to whom I last week spoke of the alleged outrage promptly denounced the stories as a fiction, adding that he had just come from the place referred to; and that he had not heard a word said in regard to any occurrence of the kind.

The story was invented by some one who knows how to fire the Chinese heart. But what must we think of a patriotic association that has no better basis to rest on?

The organisation we are told was never completed, and that those who responded to the false alarm are now ashamed of having signed the paper.

FORMOSA.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Tamsui, 1st June 1898.

In the May 9th issue of your journal a correspondent in the south of the Island gives to the public the Chinese version of an engagement in which there were "24 men, 2 women, and 4 children" killed, which your correspondent describes as the "indiscriminate and savage butchery of innocent countrymen and helpless women and children by the Japanese soldiery in the Hozan district." We in the North are of course not in a position to ascertain the exact truth of affairs occurring in the South, but in all fairness to the Japanese your correspondent will doubtless not object to the presentation of their version.

On pointing out the article in question to Staff Captain Ota, this officer looked up the official reports covering the period and permitted us to copy them.

On April 19th, the Regiment Commander having received a report from the police to the effect that three or four hundred banditti were assembling in Toa-la-su, despatched one company of infantry to attack them. At about

noon the troop arrived at Hozan Hill, where the banditti were in force. The latter defended themselves very strongly, taking advantage of big caves, which formed natural fortifications. Eventually, on the 21st, the Chinese were defeated with a loss of 22 killed, while the Japanese loss amounted to 8 killed and wounded. A number of guns and considerable ammunition were captured, and the troops returned to Hozan without further fighting.

On the 22nd, the Civil Prefect of Hozan reported to the military headquarters, that about 100 armed men, under the command of an old rebel leader known as Lin were assembling, apparently with the intention of joining the band that had been defeated the day before by the Japanese, and requesting the immediate despatch of soldiers. Meanwhile the rioters had retired to Loon-ah-tieng and orders were received to attack them there. The Japanese infantry on approaching the place were fired upon from the outskirts of the village, and the attack was commenced, the Chinese returning the fire briskly. Soon afterwards a fire was seen to be burning in that portion of the village occupied by the rioters. As to its origin the Japanese were unable to account. They had not as yet entered that portion of the village. The banditti fled soon after, leaving 31 killed and 40 who were afterwards taken prisoners, and it is assumed that they fired the place as they were escaping.

Your correspondent states that the Japanese, "smarting under the defeat sustained, allowed their lust for blood to overcome all soldiery instincts, for on the return journey to Hozan they attacked a peaceful village called Loon-ah-tieng." Your correspondent has doubtless erred here, as the Japanese were eventually victorious at the Hozan Hills, and the Loon-ah-tieng engagement did not take place at that time. It was a separate expedition ordered by the Civil Prefect and consisted of four companies, whereas the Hozan Hill engagement force was comprised of only one company. Your correspondent can quite likely verify these statements if he desires.

As to the killing of "2 women and 4 children," which your correspondent is scarcely justified in describing as the "indiscriminate and savage butchery" of "helpless women and children by the Japanese soldiery of the Hozan district," it is quite possible that it occurred. It would seem almost impossible to attack any village without killing some women and children, if they were there.

The Japanese have a great task before them. The country is much disturbed in several districts and the savages have been making frequent raids on the Chinese. It is necessary that strict measures be taken in dealing with the armed banditti, and in this the authorities should be encouraged rather than impeded.

HONGKONG.

The latest news as to what is transpiring in the Philippines was brought by H.M.S. *Swift* on Monday, the despatches informing us that the insurgents had begun to surround Manila and had already had several collisions with the Spaniards, the latter of whom had got the worst of the encounters. Further information is expected by the *Zafiro* to-day or to-morrow. On Monday evening the Hon. T. H. Whitehead gave a farewell dinner at the Charter House to Captain F. R. Loveband, for the last three years non. sec. Hongkong Polo Club, who left for home on Wednesday. Some commotion was caused in the city on Thursday by a seizure of arms and ammunition suspected to be for Manila.

The Royal Artillery have vacated North Barracks and removed to Victoria Barracks, and North Barracks were on 4th June taken over by the Naval authorities in connection with the Naval Yard extension. The late Mr. E. Sharp's property has already been taken over, and the work is now expected to proceed vigorously.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram from the mines giving the result of the May clean up:—"The mill ran 29 days crushing 2,550 tons of headings yielding 262 ozs. of smelted gold. Twenty tons of concentrates were ground in Berdan pans yielding 15 ozs. of smelted gold."

A proclamation appears in Saturday's *Gazette* declaring Amoy an infected port.

The report for last year of Mr. E. Bowdler, late special engineer, Praya reclamation works, is published in the *Gazette*.

The ferry-boats for the service of the Perak State Railway are due to arrive there early next January. They are under construction by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company.—*Straits Times*.

Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, inform us that they have received a telegram from the mines to the effect that the expert's report on Eureka mine is satisfactory, and that Mr. Hart Buck leaves for Hongkong on the 20th inst.

We regret to learn from Consul-General Wildman that he is in receipt of a cable to the effect that Captain Charles V. Gridley, U.S.N., died at Kobe on Sunday afternoon. Captain Gridley commanded the U.S. flagship *Olympia* at the battle of Manila Bay. He came here on U.S.S. *Zafiro* and left for America via O. & O. steamer *Coptic*. Captain Gridley entered the Naval Academy from Michigan, 26th September, 1860, and saw service during the civil war. The Consulate flag was half-masted on Monday as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased officer.

The following notice signed by the Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Director of Public Works, appears in the *Gazette*:—"The Water Authority begs the co-operation of Peak residents in preventing misuse or waste of water, so as to avoid, if possible, the shutting off of the supply for many hours of the day. At present the capacity of the pumping station is strained almost to its limit and the daily consumption in May exceeded that of April by 25 per cent." The presence of the military at Mount Austin has no doubt contributed to the increased consumption mentioned in the above.

The Douglas steamer *Haitan*, Captain Hall, which arrived on 3rd June from Coast Ports, rescued six shipwrecked Chinese sailors off Mendoza. The junk to which they belonged was bound from Swatow to Hongkong and was capsized about 2 a.m. on 3rd June and broke up. The six survivors were rescued from the wreckage. They stated that the crew consisted of nine, and it is believed the three missing men got entangled in the sail and, being unable to swim were drowned. Needless to say the men rescued were well cared for on the *Haitan*, and the native passengers and others gave practical expression to their sympathy by subscribing a few dollars, for which the recipients were exceedingly grateful.

The master of the steam launch *Kwang Lee* was charged at the Magistracy on 3rd June with carrying 29 passengers in excess of the number allowed by his license while in local trade waters. P. C. Osborne said that on Wednesday afternoon he was on duty in No. 6 pinnace between Stonecutter's Island and Kennedytown when he saw the *Kwang Lee* enter the harbour from the direction of Capsuimun. He stopped the launch, it being his business to ask where they came from, being on quarantine duty, and was informed that the launch came from Sum Chui, the other side of Capsuimun. He counted the passengers, and found they numbered 95, which was 29 more than the launch was licensed to carry within local trade waters. A fine of \$58 was imposed.

Our readers will be glad to learn that a proposal to erect a memorial to the late Misses Ireland and Higgin has taken shape and that subscription lists are now open. Sisters Gertrude and Frances lost their lives while in the performance of their duties and a desire has been widely expressed that the memory of their noble self-sacrifice should be perpetuated in some suitable form. As notified in a communication in another column, the form of the memorial will be decided at a meeting of subscribers after the friends of the deceased ladies have been communicated with. Subscription lists will be found at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, and Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co. Subscriptions will also be received by Mrs. Wilson Black, Lady Carrington, Mrs. S. C. Holland, and Mr. T. Jackson, Hon. Treasurer *pro tem*.

On 8th June at the Magistracy a Heungshang barber was fined \$50 or two months for infringing the exclusive privilege of the Post-Master General by being the bearer of letters for transmission to Macao.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.E. the Acting Governor has been pleased to recognise, provisionally and pending the arrival of the Queen's exequatur, Dr. F. C. Rieloff as in charge of the German Consulate.

At the Magistracy on 8th June a Chinaman was fined \$100—he was fined \$75 the other week for a similar offence—for blasting stone without taking proper precautions on Monday. Inspector Duncan said he was in No. 8 Police Station when he heard a blast followed by a crash caused by the stone produced falling through the cook-house. On going out he saw that the operations were being conducted about 100 feet from the station and the same distance from two public roads. After being fined on the previous occasion defendant procured some shields, but he was not using them on Monday.

The *Echo Macaense* states, on the authority of Dr. Gomes da Silva, the head of the Sanitary Department at Macao, that during the recent epidemic of plague in that city Dr. Yersin's anti-plague serum was employed in the treatment of a number of plague cases at the Lappa hospital and gave rapid and excellent results. In connection with this we may mention that a quantity of Dr. Haffkine's serum was recently imported into Hongkong from India by a public spirited member of the community, Mr. A. J. David, who handed it over to the doctors, but whether it has been used, or with what results, we are unable to say.

We regret to announce the death at the Government Civil Hospital on Monday morning of Mr. James Lucien Prosser at the age of 40 years. The deceased gentleman was Surveyor to the Public Works Department, in whose employ he had been for about nine years. Last December he returned from England, where he had been on leave. He had not been well for some time and was taken to the Hospital a few days ago. The funeral took place the same afternoon. As a member of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps deceased was buried with full military honours. Major Sir John Carrington and other officers attended. The firing party, which was in charge of Sergeant Hayward, was composed of members of deceased's own detachment. The deceased was a Mason, being a member of the United Service Lodge, No. 1341, and many of his brother Masons were present at his obsequies. The coffin was covered with wreaths. The band of the King's Own played the Funeral March on the way to the cemetery.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

The Viceroy has memorialised the Throne asking to be allowed to resign his post on account of his continued sickness. His Excellency was sick sometime ago and applied for leave, which was granted but has now expired. It is most probable that he will not be allowed to resign, and that only his leave will be extended.

The dragon boat races, which usually take place on the 5th day of the 5th moon, took place on the 5th, 6th, and 7th instant. These races were especially arranged as a means of driving away the plague devils, and were attended with more than ordinary enthusiasm, for the Chinese regard the dragon boats as gods' boats. They say that when the dragon boats have shown themselves all the plague devils will be frightened away.

Another riot has broken out in the district of Kuming, which is one of the most rebellious places. The inhabitants have suffered more or less from the ravages of the rioters and the local mandarins have sent telegrams to Canton for assistance, in reply to which three hundred soldiers have been sent. All the rebels are living in the mountains, which can only be entered by one pass which is always guarded by them, so that the soldiers cannot reach them.

The Prefect of Wuchow has issued a notice telling the people not to give any trouble or interfere with the erection of the British Consulate at Namshan. If there are any graves on the site it should be reported to the local officer, who will amply compensate the owner.

Two Imperial edicts concerning the death of Prince Kung, who died on the 29th ultimo, were issued on the 30th ultimo, one of which was issued at the instance of the Empress Dowager and the other by the Emperor himself. Both of them are nearly of the same tenour. They say that His Royal Highness was one of the sons of the Emperor Tao Kwang, who loved him very much. During the reign of Hien Fung he was appointed a member of the War Department, in which office he served with utmost fidelity. During the time of Emperor Tung Chi he was greatly esteemed by the two Empresses Dowager, and in recognition of his merits one of his descendants of each generation is to be allowed to bear the title of Prince. Throughout his whole life he always devoted himself to the honest fulfilment of his duties. The Emperor went to see him three times when he was sick. After his death the Imperial Court was closed for five days and the Emperor is to mourn for fifteen days.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In 1893 a despatch boat was sunk at the entrance to the Meinam River to block the mouth. She has now been raised by Mr. Leonardi and some other speculators, and it is proposed to lengthen her to 120 feet. She is now docked at Messrs. Howarth Erskine's yard, Bangkok.

The *Kobe Herald* of the 27th May says:—We learn that the Blue Funnel liner *Palinurus* has just changed hands, Mr. Oaki Kikusaburo, the well-known shipowner of Osaka, having bought her. The purchase was negotiated by Mr. Drewell, we understand. The price has not transpired. The Japanese ensign was run up at one o'clock to-day, the ship being renamed the *Dai Nijiu Kwannon Maru*.

The American four-masted ship *Dirigo* arrived at Woosung on 30th May, from New York, having left that port on the 12th of January. After entering the China Sea, when in Lat. 8 N., she was spoken by an English steamer and informed that war had broken out. The Philippines were accordingly given a wider berth than usual, and the *Dirigo* arrived safely at Woosung without having encountered any untoward adventure. She belongs to the same line as the *Shenandoah*, whose capture by a Spanish cruiser was falsely reported at the commencement of the war.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A serious accident occurred at Nagasaki on the 24th May on board the German cruiser *Arcona*, lying in harbour. During the firing of a salute, a charge exploded owing to the heating of the chamber of the gun, and a gunner close by received the full force of the explosion. The unfortunate man was at once attended to, but the injuries received were of so serious a nature that it was deemed advisable to send him to St. Bernard's Hospital. On examination at the latter place, it was found that one of the injured man's fingers was completely shattered and that his face was badly burned.—*Nagasaki Press*.

Information has been received in Shanghai of a sad drowning accident which occurred at Ichang on the 28th May, by which Mr. Robert M. Turner, third engineer of the China Merchants' steamer *Kueilee* lost his life. Mr. Turner, who was only 22 years of age, was one of the most popular officers of a very popular steamer. He was standing near the rail of his steamer, having just seen a friend depart for the shore in a sampan. It was dark at the time, and Mr. Turner was last seen alive by his friend. Soon afterwards the Chinese quartermaster heard a splash and noticed that Mr. Turner was missing. He immediately informed the chief engineer, Mr. Davis, who had a search made and a boat was lowered immediately, but nothing was found to indicate where or how the unfortunate man had disappeared. The boat was pulled round for some time, but the ship's crew were reluctantly compelled to abandon the search. There is a very strong current usually running at Ichang but just now it is increased by heavy rains. Up to the present time no information has reached here of the recovery of the body. The late Mr. Turner has been in China about two-and-a-half years, and was a very highly respected member of his profession. He was a native of Greenock, N.B., and was well known in en-

gineering circles at Singapore. He comes of a large engineering family, his brother Mr. S. Turner, being on the Old Dock staff.—*Mercury*.

The Hakodate correspondent of the *Japan Advertiser* sends the following particulars of the loss of the *Silver Fleece*:—The American sealing schooner *Silver Fleece*, Captain W. A. Thompson, went ashore and became a total loss in Yetomo Harbour, close to Muroran, on the morning of the 22nd. The vessel had encountered a succession of south-east gales for the previous two weeks, which drove her into Volcano Bay last Thursday week. Captain Thompson then being off Yetomo, ran in and anchored, intending to ride out the gale there. On Sunday at six a.m. the wind, which had been blowing from the south-east, suddenly shifted to the north-west and blew with terrific force, and a terrible sea began to roll into the anchorage, which is exposed and unprotected from the north. Captain Thompson paid out all the chain he could to his anchors, but without avail, for at 8.30 a.m. the vessel, lifting on a heavy sea, carried away both chains, and two minutes after was carried broadside on to the rocks and within half an hour went to pieces. The crew were rescued with the greatest difficulty, many of them being cut and bruised while getting ashore, though fortunately no lives were lost. About 335 seal skins, out of the vessel's catch of 552, washed ashore and were saved, though everything else was lost, including the crew's effects. Captain Thompson and sixteen of the crew arrived at Hakodate on the 24th, the mate and second mate stopping at Yetomo to guard the wreckage on the beach.

On Saturday, 21st May, the Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited, successfully undocked the steamer *Sultan*. This vessel, it may be remembered, went ashore on the north island of the Miao Tau group in the Gulf of Pechili, was abandoned, and auctioned in Shanghai. The Lighter Company bought the vessel, raised her, brought her to Taku under her own steam, docked her, and have now had the pleasure of seeing her once more afloat and thoroughly and excellently repaired. The *Sultan* was built in 1894, by Messrs. Wood, Skinner & Co., Bill Quay, England. Her length is 275 feet, beam 37 feet 6 inches, depth 20 feet 8 inches, her gross tonnage 2,135.38 and register tonnage 1,350.32. Her draught light is 7 feet 10 inches, and loaded 21 feet with 3,300 tons on board. The cubic capacity of holds is 149,250 feet, equivalent to 3,553 tons at 42 cubic feet to the ton. The vessel's consumption of coal is 18 tons per 24 hours, with a speed of 10 knots. Her bunker capacity is 32½ tons and water ballast 460 tons. The engines, built by The North Eastern Marine Engineering Company, Limited, Wallsend, are triple expansion. Diameter of cylinders 20½", 34", and 56", the length of stroke 29", the nominal horse power 200. There are two steel boilers carrying 160 lbs. pressure, each boiler having 3 furnaces. Our local company is to be heartily congratulated on the success which they have scored with the vessel, and it is satisfactory to know that a work of such magnitude as the repair of a vessel of this size has been so admirably accomplished in our northern port. We understand that it is not the intention of the Lighter Company to run the *Sultan*, and that they are negotiating for her immediate sale.—*Peking and Tientsin Times*.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 28th May.—Tasleess.—A few settlements are reported for Bombay at high prices. Nothing has been done for Europe and our unjoined quotations are entirely nominal. Re-reels.—A few bales No. 1 and No. 2 Grant have been settled at \$560 and 515, but dealers are holding back and no offers are obtainable. Filatures.—Good chops, fine sizes, have been in fairly good enquiry. From prices paid we quote: 74/730 for Kwong Shan Cheong 11/13 and 13/15 \$730 for Shing King Lun Wing King Lun and Wing Wo Lun 9/11, \$720 for Sun Yu Lun 9/11, \$710 for Sui Lun Hing 9/11, \$690 for Hip Sam Choy 10/12 and Kwong King Loon 10/12, \$680 for Sing Ling Lun 9/11 and Sui Lun Hing 11/13, \$675 for Sui Lun Hing 13/15, \$592½ for King Wo Cheong 26/30, \$575

for Po Cheong Loong 13/15. Short-reels.—From prices paid we quote: \$705/700 for Kwang Lun Fung and U Hau Cheong 14/16, \$675 for Yu King Lun and Yee Wo Loong 14/16 \$665 for Yau Hing Chening, Kwong Pou Kee and Koun King 14/16. Waste.—A Shade weaker. Tatlees, nil Filatures, 400 bales.

SHANGHAI, 4th June.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—Since our last, London advices report a firm market, and Blue Elephants 10/74. Gold Kilings at Fcs. 26.25 is the last quotations from Lyons. Raw Silk.—There has been a further decline in prices, and we now quote Gold Kilings at Tls. 427½ at 430, on this basis a good deal has been done; total settlements of New Season Silks are quite 4,000/4,500 bales now. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, June 1st to June 3rd, are: 1 bale White, 10 bales Yellow, and 243 bales Wild Silks. Re-Reels and Filatures.—There are rumours of fresh contracts for America, but we have not heard of any definite settlement. Wild Silk.—About 100 bales have been done at quotations below. Waste Silk.—Nothing doing.

HANKOW, 2nd June.—Business reported since the 26th ulto. is as under:—

	1898.	1897.
Settlements ...	146,092 ½-chts.	135,242 ½-chts.
Consisting of the following Teas:—		
Ningchows...	38,956 ½-chts. at Tls. 16.00 to 68.00	
Khemuns ...	6,643 " " 20.00 to 38.00	
Ho-hows....	1,527 " " 15.25 to —	
Wen-chows...	557 " " 21.00 to —	
Oopacks	40,693 " " 12.00 to 65.00	
Oonams	2,837 " " 11.00 to 32.50	
Oonfaas	28,835 " " 17.50 to 34.00	
Seang-tams..	26,044 " " 9.30 to 11.50	

The following are statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular last season, viz., 31st May 1897.

	1898.	1897.
Hankow Tea.		
Settlements ...	289,808 ½-chts.	192,735 ½-chts.
Stock	91,862 " "	157,094 " "
Arrivals.....	381,670 " "	349,829 " "
Kiukiang Tea.		
Settlements ...	153,185 ½-chts.	118,732 ½-chts.
Stock	44,302 " "	62,513 " "
Arrivals.....	197,487 " "	181,245 " "

The entire business to date as compared with the corresponding circular of last year is estimated as under:—

	1898.	1897.
For London		
Africa and		
European	72,993 ½-chts.	70,008 ½-chts.
Continent		
For Russia.....	370,000 " "	241,450 " "
	442,993 ½-chts.	311,467 ½-chts.

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 10th June.—The market has further weakened. Quotations for Formosa are \$41.50 to \$42.00. Sales, 200 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 10th June.—The advance last reported has continued and prices are again higher. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.36 to 7.38 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	7.14 to 7.17 " "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.85 to 4.88 " "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.75 to 4.77 " "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.26 to 7.29 " "
do. " 2, White...	7.00 to 7.04 " "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.80 to 4.83 " "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.70 to 4.74 " "
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.25 to 11.30 " "
Shekloong "	10.07 to 10.09 " "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Canton*, sailed on the 26th May. For London:—200 bales waste silk, 100 bales feathers, 5 bales canes, 103 rolls matting, 6 cases curios and effects, 2 cases sundries, and 630 boxes tea (13,230 lbs.). For Gibraltar:—3 cases curios, and 1 roll matting.

Per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, sailed on the 28th May. For San Francisco:—186 packages tea. For New York:—1,588 packages tea (38,652 lbs.) from Amoy. For San Francisco:—23 cases silk goods. For Corinto:—3 cases silk goods. For Panama:—14 cases silk goods. For New York:—105 bales raw silk.

Per P. & O. steamer *Bengal*, sailed on the 28th May. For London:—7,720 packages tea and 9 bales feathers from Foochow, 4 cases feathers, 4 cases silk piece goods, 3 bales raw silk, 1 case sundries, and 326 boxes tea (6,620 lbs.). For France:—441 bales raw silk, 5 cases cartoons, 3 packages canes, and 229 boxes tea. For Milan:—30 bales raw silk. For Basle:—30 bales pierced cocoons.

Per steamer *Sarpedon*, sailed on the 30th May. For London:—148 packages tea (2,960 lbs.), 153 packages shells, 6 packages sundries, 3 cases blackwoodware, 2 cases effects. For London and/or Manchester:—200 bales waste silk. For London and/or Liverpool:—200 packages tea. For Manchester:—450 bales waste silk, 3 cases pictures, and 6 packages blackwoodware. For Liverpool:—1 package sundries.

Per American ship, *St. David*, sailed on the 31st May. From Hongkong for New York:—8,754 rolls matting, 8,125 packages firecrackers, 6,000 packages cassia lignea, 1,750 bales broken cassia, 1,320 packages preserves, 710 packages rattanware, 490 bales rattanware, 303 cases blackwoodware, 124 cases earthenware, 118 bales canes, 75 casks soy, 56 bales heather scrubs, 50 bales strawbraid, 31 bales rush hats, 22 cases Chinaware, and 1 package effects.

Per steamer *Laos*, sailed on the 4th June. For France:—530 bales raw silk, 103 packages tea, 2 rolls matting, and 1 case watches. For London:—15 bales raw silk, 50 rolls matting, and 5 packages cassia.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 10th June.—Bengal.—The market has kept steady during the interval, a slight decline taking place towards the close. Quotations are \$692½ for New Patna, \$742½ for Old Patna, \$692½ for New Benares, and \$720 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—There has been very little doing during the past week, and the market closes quiet at the following figures:—

Old (2½ yrs.) \$820 with all'nce of 0 to 2 cts.
 " (6/7 ") \$850 " " of 0 to 2 " "
 " (8/9 ") \$900 " " of 0 to 2 " "
 Persian.—Good qualities are in strong demand, other descriptions being out of favour. Current quotations are \$490 to \$530 for Oily and \$540 to \$690 for Paper wrapped according to quality.

	New Patna.	Old Patna.	New Benares.	Old Benares.	Persian.	Malwa.
'To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—						
New Patna	340 chests					
Old Patna	290 " "					
New Benares	370 " "					
Old Benares.....	85 " "					
Persian	590 " "					
Malwa	130 " "					

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1898.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
June 4	695	745	695	720	—	—
June 5	695	745	695	720	—	—
June 6	693½	742½	695	720	—	—
June 7	695	742½	695	720	—	—
June 8	695	742½	695	720	—	—
June 9	692½	742½	692½	720	—	—
June 10	692½	742½	692½	720	—	—

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 10th June.—Small sales have been effected at a decline of \$½, and the market closes weak. Stocks, about 4,000 bales.

Bombay	\$16.00 to 18.00 p. pl.
Kurrachee to ... "
Bengal (New), Rangoon, and Dacca.....	17.00 to 20.00 " "
Shanghai and Japanese...	21.00 to 21.00 " "
Tungchow and Ningpo...	21.00 to 21.50 " "
Madras (Best).....	... to ... "
Sales: 900 bales Bengal (New), Rangoon, and Dacca.	

RICE.

HONGKONG, 10th June.—The market continues firm with little change in quotations. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$3.00 to 3.04
" Round, good quality.....	3.44 to 3.48
" Long	3.64 to 3.67
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	3.42 to 3.44
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	3.82 to 3.86
" White	4.64 to 4.68
" Fine Cargo	4.85 to 4.88

COALS.

HONGKONG, 10th June.—Market continues dull with sellers of Cardiff at \$27 ex godown. Australian neglected. Small sales of Japanese at quotations. Quotations are:—

Cardiff	\$20.00 to 27.00 ex ship, nominal.
Australian	11.00 to 13.00 ex ship, quiet
Miki Lump }	\$10.00 to 12.50 nominal
and Small. }	
Moji Lump ...	9.00 to 11.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay Lump	12.50 to — no minal.
Hongay Dust..	5.00 to — " "
Briquettes ...	10.00 to — " "

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 10th June.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—550 bales No. 10 at \$80 to \$88, 750 bales No. 12 at \$55.50 to \$88, 100 bales No. 16 at \$7.50, 850 bales No. 20 at \$95 to \$101. *Grey Shirtings*.—350 pieces 7 lbs. Chair Chop at \$2, 1,500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$3.97½. *White Shirtings*.—1,500 pieces 6 Mark \$4.42½, 150 pieces Blue Lion R. at \$6.05, 250 pieces Gold Elephant at \$4.02½, 250 pieces Gold Elephant at \$4.02½, 500 pieces 6 Mark at \$4.42½, 500 pieces Gold Dragon at \$5.45, 500 pieces Flying Horse at \$2.40. *T. Cloths*.—1,125 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. B. Men No. 950 at \$2.20, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Gold Dragon at \$2.47, 1,500 pieces 32 in. Mex. 4 Birds at \$2.93 arrive, 250 pieces 32 in. Mex. 8 Birds at \$3.50 arrive, 1,500 pieces 7 lbs. Blue Dragon B. B. at \$2.45, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Sil. Lion No. 1 at \$1.94, 375 pieces 7 lbs. M-x. Sil., Lion, No. 2 at \$1.89, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Sil., Lion, No. 2 at \$1.89, *Victoria Lawns*.—2,000 pieces Red Lions at \$0.98½. *Drills*.—600 pieces 15 lbs. Despard Chop at \$2.

METALS.—*Quick-Silver*.—500 flasks at \$1.45 arrive, 300 flasks at \$1.44 arrive, 200 flasks at \$1.43 arrive. *Tin*.—100 slabs Foong Chai at \$40.50. *Tinplates*.—200 cases at \$6.

SHANGHAI, 4th June.—(From Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report).—The past week has been an unusually quiet one and the business reported is very small. Buyers seem to have retired from the market, but this can hardly be wondered at when one considers the amount of business that has been done during the past few months, both from stock and for arrival, and that merchants are now preparing for their customary settlement on the 23rd instant which, from present prospects, appears to be fully prepared for. Advices from the various Outports are not altogether satisfactory; reports from Tientsin being that goods are going into consumption fairly well, while prices, although showing some tendency to drop, are not notably lower. The River Ports and Ningpo markets are, however, not in such a good position, and business generally is much unsettled, difficulties over to the River supply with the Native officials being the chief source of trouble. To these disturbing elements the importer has to add the question of exchange which has recently taken an upward movement, and while it is still under the parity of Silver it tends to make buyers think it may still go higher, and thus whatever inclination there was on the part of the dealer to operate has quietly been put on one side for the time being. Clearances are not so good as they were, but still are not unsatisfactory.

METALS, 6th May.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s Report).—In Metals there has been almost no business, although prices are easier at home, almost a slump occurring in Copper and Yellow Metal Sheet, the Chinese buyers refuse to deal, appearing almost in a state of collapse. Deliveries have been very bad owing principally to the near approach of the quarterly settling day in a fortnight. The following goods have been sold at auction:—256 piculs Galvanised Wire at Tls. 3.60 per picul, 500 piculs Old Boiler Plates at Tls. 2.10 per picul, 400 casks Wire Nails at Tls. 3.77½ per cask.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 10th June.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/10½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.38
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.42
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.93

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	45½
Credits, 60 days' sight	46½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	141½
Bank, on demand	142½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	141½
Bank, on demand	142½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	75
Private, 30 days' sight	75½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	7½ % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	nom.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	¾ % pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	10.42
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	54.75

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 10th June.—There is no improvement to report in the share market. Business generally has continued dull and no transactions of any importance have taken place, whilst rates again show signs of weakening a little.

BANKS.—After further small sales of Hongkong and Shanghai at 194 and 195 per cent. prem. the market is easier with sellers at the former rate. Nationals are still on the market at \$18 and half a point lower would doubtless be accepted. Bank of Chinas unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—All local Marines continue on offer without business, whilst the Northern Insurances have been negotiated in Shanghai at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are still offered at \$332½ without finding buyers, but Chinas have been enquired for without leading to business at \$98 and at time of closing sales are reported at \$99.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have found buyers at \$26, closing quiet at that rate. Indos have ruled quiet with little or no business at \$62. Douglases are still wanted in small lots at \$58, but larger parcels are obtainable at that rate. China Manilas continue entirely out of the market. An enquiry for China Mutuats at quotations has not resulted in business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have changed hands in small lots at \$163 for settlements, closing quiet at \$163 cash sellers. Luzons continue neglected and without business.

MINING.—Punjoms, a fair business has been put through during the week at rates between \$7½ and \$7, the market closing quieter at \$6.75. Charbonnages remain unchanged and without business. Applications for the new issue should be made before the 24th instant. Olivers B have changed hands at \$3.50 to \$4 and Balmorals at 80 cents and 70 cents. Jebebus have ruled rather quieter with only small sales at \$3.70 and close at \$3.50. Raubs continue very strong and in demand, but almost without business, a few small lots only having changed hands at \$33, \$34, and \$35; an unsatisfied demand still exists, and holders seem very much indisposed to part even at the enhanced closing value, viz., \$36. The rough clean up for May gives 3,150 oz. amalgam, equal to about 1,050 oz. gold.

LOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled somewhat quieter with sellers at 254 per cent. prem. and no sales to report. Kowloon Wharves have changed hands at \$60 and \$61, closing with sellers at the latter rate. Wanchais unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been negotiated at \$71, \$71½, and \$72, closing steady at the last rate. Hotels continue quiet at \$52 with small sales. Humphreys have changed hands at \$8½ for small lots and at a slightly lower rate for larger parcels, market closing with sellers at \$8½. West Points continue on offer at \$20 without business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been enquired for at \$18 for new and \$28½ for old, after sales at \$17½ and \$28. Watsons are wanted at \$11.25, but holders refuse to part at that rate. Nothing else to report under this heading.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		[\$367½, sales & sol. 191, ½ prem=]
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	nominal
China & Japan, prf.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	\$4	nominal
Do. deferred...	\$1	\$5. 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	\$8	\$18, sellers
Founders Shares...	\$1	\$18, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	\$1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8
China Sugar	\$100	\$163
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo...	Tls. 100	Tls. 100
Hongkong	\$40	\$25, sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 107
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 100
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 520
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 99
Dairy Farm Co.	\$3	\$5½
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$30½, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$28½, buyers
Do. New Issue	\$5	\$18, buyers
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$125
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$9½, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$107
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$52, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$110, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$6½, sales
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$160, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	254 p. ct. prem.=
Insurances—		[\$442½, sellers
Canton	\$50	\$137½, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$99, buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$62, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$332½, sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 180, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$11, sellers
Union	\$50	\$22½, sellers
Yangtze	\$50	\$134, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$72, sales
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$8½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$17, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$20, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$11, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fce. 500	\$125, sellers
Great E. & C'donian	\$5	\$4.80, sellers
Do. Do.	\$2½	\$3.30, sellers
Jebebu	\$5	\$3.50, buyers
New Balmoral	\$1	70c., sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	80c., sales & sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$14
Do. B.	\$2½	\$4, buyers
Punjom	\$5	\$6.75, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.80
Raubs	14s. 10d.	\$36, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$4.25, sal. & sellers
Steamship Co.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$80, sellers
China Mutual Ord.	\$10	\$110½, buyers
Do. Preference	\$10	\$8, buyers
Do. Do.	\$5	\$3, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$5½	\$58, sales
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$26, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$52, sellers
Star Ferry	\$7½	\$9½, sales & sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$1	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$1.40, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$41
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11.25, buyers

J. V. Y. VERNON, broker.

SHANGHAI, 6th June.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report)—Business has been more active this week, and the feeling of the market is better than it has been for some time. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Cash shares were sold on the 1st at 194 per cent. premium, and on the 2nd at 197 for the 30th current. There was a demand for shares, and business was done at 197 and 198 for cash on the 30th June, and 200 per cent. premium for cash. Marine Insurance.—No business reported. In Hongkong Unions are offering at \$222½. China Traders' shares at \$62, Cantons at \$137½, and Straits at \$11. Fire Insurance.—Hongkong Fire Insurance shares changed hands at \$340. Chinas are wanted in Hongkong at \$93. Shipping.—Indo China S. N. shares are wanted in Hongkong at \$61. China Mutual S. N. Preference shares were placed at Tls. 70, and are wanted. Sugar Companies.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were placed at Tls. 38, and more are wanted. China Sugar Refining shares were sold at \$162 and \$163 for cash. In Hongkong there are buyers at \$161. Luzons are offering there at \$42. Mining.—Sheridan C. Mining and

Milling shares were sold at Tls. 2.50, and are in demand at the same price. Jebebu Mining and Trading shares were placed, to Hongkong, at \$1.75. Raub Australian Gold Mining shares were sold at \$34 for delivery on the 30th current. Dock, Wharves and Godowns.—Boyd & Co. shares are obtainable at Tls. 105, S. C. Farnham & Co. shares changed hands at Tls. 163 cash and Tls. 175 for the 30th September, and are in demand at the same prices. Shanghai Dock shares were sold at Tls. 82 for delivery on the 30th current. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been sold at Tls. 116, and are wanted, while holders ask Tls. 117. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares have improved and are wanted at Tls. 88, and Hongkong Land Investment shares at \$71. Industrial.—International Cotton Mill shares were placed at Tls. 107 cash and Tls. 110 for the 30th September, and Laou-Kung-Mow shares at Tls. 101 for the 30th current. China Flour Mill shares changed hands at Tls. 54 and Tls. 56. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Samatra Tobacco shares changed hands at Tls. 73 cash, Tls. 80 for July and Tls. 83 for both August and September. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 25½/25 cash, Tls. 265 for June, Tls. 270 for July, Tls. 280/285 for August, Tls. 305 for November, and Tls. 310 for December. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares were placed at Tls. 69 and Tls. 70. J. Llewellyn & Co. shares are offering at \$61 ex div. Hall & Holtz shares were placed at \$38, and there are some on offer at the same rate.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 10th June.—Since our last a fair number of settlements have been reported. From Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul is offered for small carriers. From Bangkok to this 30 and 35 cents per picul can be obtained for a medium-sized steamer, and 33 and 33 for a small prompt steamer. Moji to Hongkong, the market is a little weaker, and only \$2.20 per picul is offered for prompt loading. Newchwang to Canton, 38 cents per picul. Sailing tonnage.—The British barque *Marian Woodside* has been taken for New York, and the German steamer *Ebenezer* goes to Singapore to load for the above port. The latter vessel obtained 2,900 pounds sterling.

There are six disengaged ships in port, registering 6,948 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Tientsin—British steamer, 1,250 tons, Hongay or Kebao to Swatow (2 trips) \$2.80 per ton.
Bevenue—British steamer, 1,468 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul.
Foyle—British steamer, 1,311 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 30 and 35 cents per picul.
Esmeralda—British steamer, 966 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton.
Elphinstone—British steamer, 1,141 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.10 per ton.
Nord—Norwegian steamer, 768 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.20 per ton.
Clitus—British steamer, 1,588 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$2.75 per ton.
Sabine Rickmers—British steamer, 690 tons, Hongkong to Haiphong and back, \$2.500.
Donar—German steamer, 1,202 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23½ cents per picul.
Rio—German steamer, 1,109 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 24 cents per picul.
Tritus—German steamer, 1,341 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.
Picciola—German steamer, 875 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.
Siegfried—German steamer, 909 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.
Deuteros—German steamer, 1,198 tons, monthly, 3/3 months, at Reichsmark, \$12,000 per month.
Ingraban—German steamer, 894 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$4,000 per month.
Glenfarg—British steamer, 2,350 tons, monthly, to San Francisco and back 9s. per ton gross.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Java* (str.), *Adria* (str.), *Ben-lauers* (str.), *Kawachi Maru* (str.), *Pyrrhus* (str.), *Paramatta* (str.).
 For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Peru* (str.), *Imberhorne*, *Gaelic* (str.).
 For NEW YORK.—*Afridi* (str.), *Queen Margaret* (str.), *Marian Woodside*, *Emily P. Whitney* (str.).
 For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India* (str.).
 For BREMEN.—*Sachsen* (str.).
 For HAVRE and HAMBURG.—*Oceana* (str.).
 For PORTLAND.—*Mogul* (str.).
 For AUSTRALIA.—*Airlie* (str.), *Taiyuan*.
 For MARSEILLES.—*Kawachi Maru* (str.), *Yarra* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

June—

ARRIVALS.

- 4, Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.
- 4, Fooksang, British str., from Canton.
- 4, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
- 4, Oslo, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 4, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from K'chinotzu.
- 4, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 4, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
- 4, Claverhill, British str., from Samarang.
- 4, Hangchow, British str., from Shanghai.
- 4, Kalgan, British str., from Wuhu.
- 4, Sungkiang, British str., from Newchwang.
- 4, Terrier, Norwegian str., from Moji.
- 4, Yamaguchi Maru, Jap. str., from Seattle.
- 5, Hector, British str., from Liverpool.
- 5, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
- 5, Lyeemooon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Moyune, British str., from London.
- 5, Onsang, British str., from Hongay.
- 6, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 6, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
- 6, Frejr, Danish str., from Swatow.
- 6, Taksang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 6, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
- 6, Hansa, German str., from from Saigon.
- 6, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Iloilo.
- 6, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
- 6, Miike Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
- 6, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
- 6, Swift, British gunboat, from Manila.
- 6, Bingo Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.
- 6, Caledonien, French str., from Marseilles.
- 7, Malacca, British str., from Yokohama.
- 7, Senta, German str., from Hamburg.
- 7, Plover, British gunboat, from Labuan.
- 7, Tamariud, Norw. str., from Newchwang.
- 7, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 7, Anping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Chittagong, British str., from Sourabaya.
- 7, Rio, German str., from Saigon.
- 7, Singan, British str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Yuensang, British str., from Canton.
- 7, Kweiyang, British str., from Swatow.
- 7, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., from Swatow.
- 7, Gaelic, British str., from San Francisco.
- 7, Amara, British str., from Moji.
- 7, Mary L. Cushing, Amr. sh., from N. York.
- 8, Rohilla, British str., from Yokohama.
- 8, Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
- 8, Fortuna, Norw. str., from Singapore.
- 8, Foyle, British str., from Bangkok.
- 8, Framnes, Norw. str., from Bangkok.
- 8, Charon, British str., from Bangkok.
- 8, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
- 8, Queen Margaret, British str., from Japan.
- 9, Letimbro, Italian str., from Bombay.
- 9, Progress, German str., from Chefoo.
- 9, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
- 9, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 9, Lyeemooon, German str., from Canton.
- 9, Ingraban, German str., from Amoy.
- 9, Parramatta, British str., from Shanghai.
- 10, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 10, Taksang, British str., from Careon.
- 10, Kalgan, British str., from Canton.
- 10, Anping, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 10, Glenloch, British str., from London.
- 10, Menmuir, British str., from Melbourne.
- 10, Keongwai, British str., from Bangkok.
- 10, Verona, British str., from Bombay.
- 10, Hangchow, British str., from Canton.
- 10, Sungkiang, British str., from Canton.
- 10, Triumph, German str., from Swatow.
- 10, Raguhild, Danish bark, from Rangoon.

June—

DEPARTURES.

- 4, Ulysses, British str., for London.
- 4, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
- 4, Taiyuan, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Laos, French str., for Europe, &c.
- 4, Chiyoda Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
- 4, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Wingsang, British str., for Foochow.
- 4, Pique, British cruiser, for Singapore.
- 5, Bombay, British str., for Kobe.
- 5, Bygdo, Norw. str., for Bangkok.
- 5, Castle Ventry, British str., for Sourabaya.
- 5, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
- 5, Niobe, German str., for Saigon.
- 5, Orange Prince, British str., for Aroe Bay.
- 5, Taicheong, German str., for Amoy.
- 5, St. David, Amr. ship, for New York.

- 5, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
- 5, Hangchow, British str., for Canton.
- 5, Kalgan, British str., for Canton.
- 6, Germania, German str., for Saigon.
- 6, Triumph, German str., for Swatow.
- 6, Ask, Danish str., for Swatow.
- 5, Bellerophon, British str., for Amoy.
- 6, Fooksang, British str., for Cebu.
- 6, Sungkiang, British str., for Canton.
- 6, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 6, Lyeemooon, German str., for Canton.
- 7, Braemar, British str., for Moji, &c.
- 7, Pathan, British str., for Yokohama.
- 7, Bingo Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
- 7, Caledonien, French str., for Shanghai.
- 7, City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
- 7, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 7, Moyune, British str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Siam, British str., for Amoy.
- 7, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
- 7, Singan, British str., for Canton.
- 7, Taksang, British str., for Canton.
- 7, Tamarind, Norw. str., for Canton.
- 8, Donar, German str., for Saigon.
- 8, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.
- 8, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
- 8, Empress of China, Brit. str., for V'couver.
- 8, Hector, British str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
- 8, Anping, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 9, Benvenue, British str., for Bangkok.
- 9, Malacca, British str., for London.
- 9, Oslo, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 9, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
- 9, Sannki Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
- 9, Arizona, British str., for Yokohama.
- 9, Charon, British str., for Kobe.
- 9, Chelydra, British str., for Calcutta.
- 9, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 9, Clara, German str., for Samboanga.
- 9, Daphne, German str., for Vladivostock.
- 9, Delly, German str., for Yokohama.
- 9, Onsang, British str., for Iloilo.
- 9, Progress, German str., for Canton.
- 9, Tritos, German str., for Saigon.
- 9, Urania, British str., for Rangoon.
- 10, Bengloe, British str., for Kobe.
- 10, Tsinan, British str., for Yokohama.
- 10, Rattler, British gunboat, for Manila.
- 10, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'chinotzu.
- 10, Miike Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
- 10, Queen Margaret, Brit. str., for New York.
- 10, Sendai Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Sungkiang, British str., for Iloilo.
- 10, Taksang, British str., for Cebu.
- 10, Thales, British str., for Swatow.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Bellerophon*, from Penang, 155 Chinese.
- Per *Laos*, for Hongkong from Shanghai, Dr. Malignon, Messrs. Joo King-hei, Toldson and Javouret, and Rev. Lannay; for Saigon from Kobe, Mrs. Kaway; from Shanghai, Mr. Lyons; for Singapore from Yokohama, Mr. Thomas; from Shanghai, Messrs. Gaggino and S. Broadfoot; for Port Said from Yokohama, Miss Kartalinsky; from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Bargo-witch; from Shanghai, Rev. Boule; for Mar-seilles from Yokohama, Messrs. Hidzumatchi, F. Pauly, Kalmberg, Giraud, Durand, Ogawa, and E. Pignatet; from Shanghai, Rev. Henri Hawet, Messrs. C. Ch. Jonne, Morisse, T. C. A. Deichen, F. Bouchard, and Dievillon.
- Per *Chelydra*, from Calcutta, &c.—Miss F. West, and Mr. J. M. Clark.
- Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Mr. and Mrs. De La Touche, Messrs. Kiba, Sugimura, and C. F. Koo.
- Per *Yamaguchi Maru*, from Seattle, &c., Mr. A. La Rue.
- Per *Haimun*, from Tamsui, &c., Miss Lau-rence, and Mrs. Sasaki.
- Per *Bingo Maru*, from Kobe, Master Hunter.
- Per *Caledonien*, for Hongkong from Mar-seilles, Rev. Cambette, Messrs. L. Albert, Sar-tre, and Marterielle; from Singapore, Messrs. Duverett and Springfield, Mrs. Tay Chempka, Mr. Peng Loeng, Miss Fanny, and Mr. Lhoy A. Jones; from Saigon, Mr. Horace Renwasvite; for Shanghai from Marseilles, Messrs. Lyons, Bruce, Chesseler, A. Pichon, Wittamer, Mrs. Rigotaz, Messrs. Philippot, Servais, and Richard; from Singapore, Mr. Lannay; for Nagasaki from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Chaffanjon, and Mr. Zavarzin; from Singapore, Messrs. Jacob Hore-

boser, Osyee, Osakali, and Osleio; for Kobe from Marseilles, Mr. H. Faber; from Singapore, Messrs. R. Hisore, Honislie, and Tan Heng Luk; for Yokohama from Marseilles, Messrs. Stadlin and Houard; from Port Said, Rev. Casanoff; from Singapore, Mr. and Miss Walsh, Capt. Menoque, Capt. Lang, Mr. and Mrs. Lerebrei-nich and 2 children, Miss Gardon, Mr. F. Kloyde, Mr. and Mrs. Shapira.

Per *Malacca*, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Brockhurst and children, Mr. and Mrs. Guy C. Hardy, Master and Miss Clark, Mrs. Black-more, Messrs. Gracewood, Housbery and Patrocokino.

Per *Tamarind*, from Newchwang, Mr. Edgins.

Per *Rio*, from Saigon, Mr. G. F. Röttger.

Per *Anping*, from Shanghai, Mr. Robinson, and Rev. Bondfield.

Per *Gaelic*, from San Francisco, &c., Rev. and Mrs. Chas. E. Eckels and child, Mr. Martin J. Egan, Mr. Geo. H. N. Sexton, Mr. G. W. Sayer, Mrs. Bertram and child, Messrs. James Loc-head, A. D. Pedley, F. X. Gutierrez, C. E. Roach, and Rev. E. W. Thwing and 197 Chinese.

Per *Rohilla*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. Danby, Lieut. Col. and Mrs. Whitley; from Kobe, Messrs. C. E. G. Bishop and H. McCullum; from Nagasaki, Messrs. J. Schon, Kin Lam and Sang Kai. For Calcutta, from Kobe, Capt. T. Murray.

Per *Parramatta*, from Shanghai for Hong-kong, Mr. J. Arranger; for Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Martin; for London, Miss R. F. Besnett, Miss A. Slater, Master S. Parker, Mr. T. Cun-ningham, and Miss Johnson.

DEPARTED.

Per *Formosa*, for Amoy, Mr. Morse.

Per *Hanoi*, for Haiphong, Mr. H. Letaur-neau, and Rev. Bourgois.

Per *Laos*, from Hongkong for Batavia, Mr. F. Balfour Lees; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. de la Touche, Mr. and Mrs. Bennertz, Messrs. J. Tamet, E. Groeschel and Rev. M. J. C. Borges; for Saigon from Kobe, Mrs. Kaway; from Shanghai, Mr. Lyons; for Singapore from Yokohama, Mr. Thomas; from Shanghai, Messrs. Gaggino and S. Broadfoot; for Port Said from Yokohama, Miss Kartalinsky; from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Bergowitch; from Shanghai, Rev. Boule; for Marseilles from Yokohama, Messrs. Midzumatchi, F. Pauly, Kalmberg, Giraud, Durand, Ogawa, and E. Pignatet; from Shang-hai, Rev. H. Havret, Messrs. C. Chr. Jonne, Morisse, T. C. A. Deichen, F. Bouchard, and Dievillon.

Per *Taiyuan*, for Shanghai, Misses Boyd and Pile, and Mr. W. Armstrong.

Per *Caledonien*, from Hongkong for Shang-hai, Mrs. E. A. Perpetuo, Mrs. G. Pereira, Miss A. Pereira, Messrs. K. Kominami and A. Guil-laume; for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Arab, Miss Johnston, Messrs. E. de Conceicao and A. E. da Silva; for Yokohama, Miss Rowe.

Per *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Chung; for San Francisco, Mr. C. Mark Ruck, Mrs. Moi, and Mr. Geo. Frew.

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